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THE TIMES

No 62,017

THURSDAY DECEMBER 20 1984

20p

THE TIMES Tomorrow

The art of fraud
How unscrupulous
dealers are
teaming up to
rig art prices



Font of wisdom
On the day
Prince Henry is
christened - the
role of godparents
Golden decade
Why gold has become
an economic
pointer in the
past 10 years
Men of words
Philip Howard takes
a hard-look at
former editors
of The Times

Portfolio

The Times Portfolio competition prize of £2,000 was shared by two winners yesterday. Mrs Wyn Ballock of Ealing, London, and Mr D Scagell of Weybridge, Surrey each received £1,000. Portfolio list, page 14; how to play, information service, back page.

Gas prices up 4.5% in February

Gas prices are to rise by 4.5 per cent from February 1 next year, British Gas announced. There will be no increase in standing charges and the corporation said that it intends to hold prices for the rest of 1985.

Unesco's loss

The United States announced that its withdrawal from the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization would become effective on December 31.

Lord St Oswald

Lord St Oswald, a junior minister in the Macmillan Government, died suddenly yesterday at his London home at the age of 68.

Spy satellite

Mr Caspar Weinberger, US Defence Secretary, attacked The Washington Post for disclosing that the next space shuttle will launch a spy satellite. Page 6

Videos seized

South African security police raided TNN's offices in Johannesburg and seized more than 30 video cassettes containing material shot over a two-year period. Page 6

Svetlana move

Svetlana Alliluyeva, Stalin's daughter, is reported to be planning to live in her father's native republic of Georgia with her American-born daughter, Olga. Page 6

Heroin death

Lady Gormanston, aged 29, wife of the premier viscount of Ireland, died of an overdose of heroin, a Westminster inquest was told. Page 3

Sudan sorrow

Robert Fisk continues his reports on the efforts to help famine victims who have struggled over the Ethiopian border into Sudan. Page 6

Leader page 11

Letters: On Kedleston Hall, from Mr P Fleetwood-Hicketh; hospital cuts, from Dr A A McCleod; speed limit, from the Rev M Smith

Leading articles: Pakistan referendum: Parliamentary performance, pages 8, 10

An open letter to Mrs Thatcher on easing unemployment; the intractable problems facing the famine-relief workers; Ronald Butt on middle-class guilt. Spectrum: a profile of Lee Kuan Yew

Books, page 9

Fiona MacCarthy reviews the love letters of Vita Sackville-West and Virginia Woolf; Andrew Sinclair on Saul Bellow; Marcel Berlins on crime; Peter Jones on the Cambridge University Press

Classified advertising, pages 22-24

Public appointments, 22; general appointments, 22, 23

Obituary, page 12

Mr Luther Adler, André Laug

Government wins by 100 as rebels hold fire on cuts

By Julian Haviland and Richard Evans

The Government yesterday contained the threatened rebellion over freezing of local authority assets with apparent ease, and by a majority of 100, but only after extreme exertions by the whips and because some rebels are holding their fire.

Proof of ministers' concern was the appearance for the second time this week of the Chief Whip, Mr John Wakeham, who cast his first vote since he was severely injured in the Brighton bombing. At least one minister, Mr John MacGregor, who was in Brussels, was flown back to Westminster to vote.

More than 30 Conservatives declined to support the Government in spite of the pressure. At least two voted with the opposition. About 20 showed their defiance by sitting out the division in the chamber.

On another sector of the front the Government is defending Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for Transport, was preparing for a tactical retreat by temporarily setting aside his Civil Aviation Bill.

In the emergency debate over the proposed cuts in council spending, Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, was allowed an easier passage by Conservative critics who had mauled him the previous day.

But they made plain that, while unwilling to follow the Labour Party into the lobbies on this occasion, they were keeping their powder dry for a

vote in the spring when orders will be presented to Parliament to reduce the proportion of capital receipts which local authorities will be permitted to spend.

Mr John Cunningham, Labour's chief spokesman on the environment, said Government management of local authority capital spending was abysmal. He urged the Tory rebels to show their mettle by recording their votes.

Mr Cunningham said there was a need for more public investment in housing with homelessness increasing and this year seeing the lowest number of council house completions ever recorded.

The total cut in money available to local authorities, he said, was well over £600 million - a cut of about 20 per cent in real terms.

Mr Cunningham said the Treasury was using councils' capital receipts to massage the public spending borrowing requirement, when they should be used to regenerate the economy, house people and create jobs in the construction industry.

One Conservative maverick, Dr Keith Hampson, used much the same language, contrasting what he called the real world and the accounting world of the FRSB.

Mr Geoffrey Ripon, who did Mr Jenkin's job in the previous Conservative government, said they might not need to oppose the statutory instruments if Mr Jenkin was prepared to let

councils use their capital receipts "in a proper way" where a case could be made.

But there was vocal majority support from the Conservative benches for Mr Jenkin's defence of his restraints, which he said lay at the heart of the Government's economic strategy.

Mr Ridley looks set to "freeze" his controversial Civil Aviation Bill for up to a year following the embarrassing rebellion by Conservative MPs opposed to a major expansion of Stansted airport.

Although he was said last night to be considering his options following the unprecedented blocking of the Bill's progress by the committee set up to examine it, MPs were confidently predicting that the Minister will tell the Commons this afternoon that he will not proceed until the future of Stansted is decided.

The Commons will hold a debate early next year, probably lasting two days, in the recently published Stanstead Public Inquiry Report which recommends expansion of the airport.

Mr Ridley and Mr Ian Gow, the Minister for Housing and Construction are unlikely to pronounce on Stanstead's future until June or July.

The current stalemate stems from the fear of Conservative rebels that the legislation pre-empting a decision on Stanstead's future by giving ministers power to set rigid limits on flights into Heathrow.

Washington seeks new extradition agreement

From Christopher Thomas Washington

The United States and Britain have agreed to renegotiate their extradition agreements to stop terrorists from escaping to a legal haven in America. Preliminary discussions between Washington and Westminster have already opened.

The US Administration is appalled at last week's decision by Judge John Appizzo in New York to refuse to extradite a convicted IRA member and murderer because his crime was allegedly a political act. There is no appeal against the ruling.

Joseph Patrick Thomas Doherty, convicted of murdering a British soldier in Belfast, escaped from a jail there in June 1981, two days before a judge found him guilty of murder, attempted murder, possession of illegal weapons and membership of the IRA. He is being held in a New York prison without bail as an illegal alien and has applied for political asylum. If he is turned down, he will be deported.

Mr Stephen Trott, head of the criminal division of the United States Justice Department, told The Times that America would seek to renegotiate the extradition treaties with a number of countries "because we do not want unwittingly to provide sanctuary for these violent criminals". The aim was to remove the "political offence" exclusion of the treaties.

The judge's ruling last week was outrageous, "I think it is crazy that terrorists can run across a border and repeal the whole penal code of a country. It does not make any sense. We have got to get rid of this political offence nonsense among free, friendly nations."

The Home Office confirmed last night that officials had been "taking a look" at the extradition agreement, but denied it was with a view to negotiating a new one (Henry Stanhope writes).

"We are very happy with the treaty we have," a spokesman said.

New defence buyer to be paid £95,000

By Rodney Cowton, Defence Correspondent

The Government yesterday announced the appointment of a new Chief of Defence Procurement, who will be responsible for the spending of about £8 billion a year of government money and will be the highest paid man in Whitehall, with a salary of £95,000.

The job at the Ministry of Defence is to be taken from next March by Mr Peter Levene, at present chairman and managing director of United Scientific Holdings, a big defence contractor.

Until July Mr Levene was for six months personal adviser to Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for Defence.

The choice, which is certain to cause controversy, prompted a demand by Mr Bill McCall, general secretary of the Institution of Professional Civil Servants, for a parliamentary inquiry "into the manner and circumstances of this outrageous appointment."

Mr Heseltine has in effect split the present job of Chief of Defence Procurement into two, with the present holder, Mr David Perry, moving to a newly-created post as Chief of Defence Equipment Collaboration, concentrating on multinational procurement projects.

Both Mr Levene, aged 43, and Mr Perry, who is 53, will have the status of Permanent Secretary.



Mr Levene will have £88,000 budget.

Secretary Mr Perry, however, has a salary of £42,750, the standard rate for Permanent Secretaries.

Mr Levene said last night that he would be taking a cut in income. His last published salary with United Scientific Holdings was £140,000.

His appointment as a temporary adviser to Mr Heseltine caused controversy, with suggestions of possible conflicts of interest.

On taking up his new appointment at the ministry, initially for five years, he will sever his connections with United Scientific Holdings, where he will be succeeded as chairman by Sir Frank Cooper, former Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Defence.

Pits strike could go on for years, says Willis

The coal strike could go on for years, Mr Norman Willis, general secretary of the TUC, said yesterday, as the National Union of Mineworkers took legal action to establish its authority over 30,000 dissident Nottinghamshire pitmen (our Industrial Editor writes).

His comments came at the end of a TUC general council meeting which expressed "grave dismay" at the refusal of Mr Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Energy, to use his offices to encourage negotiations.

Mr Willis gave a "very sombre" report and said that the government policy of

relying on a drift back to work presented a real danger.

The union's Nottinghamshire council meets today to approve rule changes that will exempt the area from a new disciplinary procedure and take away from the national executive the right to call strikes in the area.

In the High Court yesterday the union was given leave to proceed with its action against the Nottinghamshire rebels, but Mr Justice Warner refused to grant a temporary injunction stopping the rule changes.

In the past few days, a further £250,000 has been conveyed to the Miners' Solidarity Fund.



A greeting for Mrs Thatcher from Deng Xiaoping before the signing

Queen accepts invitation to visit China in 1986

From Mary Lee, Peking

Praise from each side for the other. Mrs Thatcher had talks all day with Chinese leaders, starting with Mr Zhao, then the Communist Party General Secretary Mr Hu Yaobang and, finally, the man who made the entire day possible - Deng Xiaoping.

These exchanges were revealed in talks between Mr Zhao and Mrs Margaret Thatcher, on the occasion of the signing of the Sino-British joint declaration on Hong Kong yesterday.

The signing, deemed historic by all its participants, went off without a hitch, with generous

years of internal turmoil during the Cultural Revolution.

Mr Deng himself went to some length to explain why China's policies on Hong Kong will remain unchanged for 50 years after 1997. "This policy," he told Mrs Thatcher "was put forward in the light of a particular situation in China. In order to become really developed, China still needs 50 years after 1997. "He reiterated that of stability and prosperity in Hong Kong was in the interest of China's four modernization programmes.

Much of the discussion concerned both government's determination to implement the joint declaration on Hong Kong, with all the Chinese leaders reiterating the point that China had a record of sticking to its international commitments, even during

Japanese press reports, which the Pentagon did not deny, said Soviet fighters and bombers flew very close to F14 fighters from the carriers.

An administration official expressed concern about possible diplomatic repercussions given Soviet sensitivities about intrusions in the area and the American-Soviet arms talks next month.

Several officials denied the episode had taken place, even as the Pentagon spokesman was confirming it.

The State Department said that as far as it knew, Washington had received no protest from the Soviet Union. But the Japanese Government, which has complained of repeated Soviet intrusion into its airspace, had made inquiries to the United States.

Tokyo had raised questions about conducting this kind of exercise so close to Soviet territorial waters and sensitive military installations and has asked for an explanation. The inquiry was evidently intended to get the matter resolved before a visit here next month by the Prime Minister, Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone.

Commander Leeder said the carriers completed a large exercise, Fleetex 85, early this month, then moved into the Sea of Japan, not far from Vladivostok, for several days.

Fleetex 85 was approved by the Joint Chiefs of Staff, but it was unclear who approved the subsequent operation.

'True poet' Ted Hughes is Laureate

By Philip Howard Literary Editor

Ted Hughes has been appointed Poet Laureate to succeed Sir John Betjeman, which is a bit like appointing a grim young crow to replace a cuddly old teddy bear.

Hughes, aged 54, is not quite the youngest man ever to have been elevated to this official post: Tennyson was 41 when he became Laureate.

But Hughes is without doubt the most anti-establishment, black, and acerbic poet to have become a court official, with the expectation, if not the duty, that he will compose odes in celebration of royal birthdays and state occasions.

He is a true poet, which is more than can be said for some of his predecessors, and his



Ted Hughes

appointment may have something to do with the fact that Lord Gowrie, Minister for the Arts, is himself a poet.

Mr Hughes, who is a private if not reclusive man, yesterday firmly refused all invitations from the bounds of Fleet Street to compose an instant poem.

Continued on back page, col 6

Oil fears push sterling to further low

The pound dropped 1.1 cents to a new low of \$1.1740 yesterday as selling pressure continued amid uncertainties over world oil prices. The sterling index, which measures the pound's average value, fell 0.3 to 73.3, also a record low.

David Smith, Economics Correspondent, writes: Later in New York, the pound dropped to \$1.1700.

Trading on foreign exchanges has been light in the Christmas run-up, but dealers report that sentiment has moved sharply against the pound. The main factor has been a belief that oil ministers of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries, now meeting in Geneva, will

fail to stem the downward pressure on oil prices.

Oil prices on the spot market weakened further yesterday, the price of North Sea Brent crude oil falling 15 cents to \$26.85 a barrel, compared with an official price of \$28.65.

Dealers also attributed sterling's weakness to strong growth in money supply and high interest rates. It was also announced yesterday that average earnings rose by 8.2 per cent in the 12 months to October.

Elsewhere too the pound was generally weak, losing 1.8 pence to DM3.6395, and nearly six pence to Ft11.455.

Kenneth Fleet, page 15

Star Wars fear raised by Kinnoch

By Anthony Bevins Political Correspondent

The American "Star Wars" project poses a greater threat to Nato than any external pressure from the Soviet Union, Mr Neil Kinnoch, the Labour leader, said after a three-hour meeting with Mr Mikhail Gorbachev in London yesterday.

"Mr Gorbachev understood the commitment we in the Labour Party have to Nato, and there was no aspiration by the Soviet Union to disturb the cohesion of the alliance." It was recognized that the alliance facilitated negotiation and gave a balance and equilibrium in Europe, Mr Kinnoch said.

Mr Gorbachev, who also met Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader, and Dr David Owen, leader of the Social Democratic Party, as part of the day's round of engagements, told Mr Kinnoch there would be no Soviet preconditions on talks with the United States.

Mr Denis Healey, chief opposition spokesman on foreign affairs, explained: "What the Russians are really saying is that if the Americans decide to go ahead with the so-called Star Wars system, the Russians, instead of trying to copy them, may decide to adopt methods of penetrating whatever system the Americans produce, and that will obviously set limits to the possibility of negotiating cuts in offensive missiles."

The Labour leader raised specific cases of human rights with Mr Gorbachev and urged the restoration of arrangements for people to be able to leave the Soviet Union.

Mr Kinnoch said Mr Gorbachev had again taken a very stern line on the observance of Soviet law.

Photograph, page 2



It's more than just the price that sets it apart.
Quality in a range of change.

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From Richard Ford, Belfast

But Mr Peter Barry, the Irish Republic's Minister for Foreign Affairs, said the trial called into question the whole system.

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

These latest crime figures, reported in a Home Office

Jenkin's cash squeeze

More homes fall into disrepair

By David Walker, Social Policy Correspondent

estimates that the number of

A parallel fall is predicted in the volume of private house-building because of general economic conditions and rising house prices in desirable areas

Municipal officials make the point that neglected repairs mean more eventual expense. If roofs or panels are left unrepaired damp can penetrate and push up the eventual cost, possibly even call for demolition.

By Charles Kneivitt
Architecture Correspondent

The Earls Court site, at 245, Warwick Road, has been under consideration for some time, as part of a reciprocal arrangement whereby the Russians find a new site for the British Embassy in Moscow.

● The advantage which the Soviet Union enjoys over Nato in front line aircraft in Europe is becoming increasingly critical, according to the 1984-85 edition of *Jane's All the World's Aircraft*. (Jane's Publishing Company, £60), published today.

Strike-bound Ford still meets demand

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

The absence of any increase in imports and Ford's apparent

Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, greeting Mr Mikhail Gorbachov, the Soviet Politburo member, on his arrival for talks at the House of Commons yesterday. Mr Gorbachov also saw the Liberal and Social Democratic Party leaders.

Yorkshire's Operation Santa Claus

By Paul Valleley

Organizing food for the families and toys for the children this Christmas is a huge task.

Strike threat over coal trains

By Staff Reporters

by signalmen 'which would
have halted trains' on the

nominate which days they want to work.

In the rest of the country all pits will be shut December 24 and 25 and most but not all will

Pits' holiday closures

to work.

In the rest of the country all pits will be shut December 24 and 25 and most but not all will

In the rest of the country all pits will be shut December 24 and 25 and most but not all will

Errors led to fatal gas blast

By Ronald Faux

He criticized lack of liaison between the distribution and service departments of Scottish Gas.

If he doesn't give you Harveys, the chances are you've got Stage 1 wrong.

Success story north of the border

New towns: 4

Further investment totalling

corporation does wind up the housing stock is due to be transferred to the district council. The Labour-controlled

Scottish Development Corporation will continue to do a good job and enjoy the full support of this government".

Solicitor cleared on appeal

The Times overseas selling prices
Austria Sch 29; Belgium B frs 50; Canada
\$2.75; Canarys Pes 1.70; Cyprus 700 mils;
Denmark Dir 8.50; Finland Mk 8.00;

Tory recovers

Mr Donald MacLean, president of the Scottish Conservative and Unionist Association, who was injured in the Brighton bomb explosion in October, was released from the Western Infirmary, Glasgow, yesterday. His wife, Muriel, died last month of her injuries.

The Times overseas selling prices
 Austria Sch 25; Belgium 5 frs 60; Canada
 \$2.70; Canaries Pst 170; Cyprus 700 mls;
 Denmark Dkr 8.50; Finland MkK 5.00;
 France Fr 7.00; Germany DM 4.50;
 Greece Dr 100; Holland Gt 3.40; Italy
 Lire 400; Japan ¥2,000; Luxembourg
 38; Madeira Esc 125; Morocco Mh 100;
 Norway Nkr 5.50; Pakistan Rs 18; Portugal
 Esc 125; Singapore S\$ 6.00; Spain Pst 170;
 Sweden Skr 5.00; Switzerland S Frs 3.00.

Concluded

hire to sue
in over
spending

Woman killed

coal trains

lay closures

Solicitor
cleared
on appeal

For more

Wife of peer choked to death from overdose of heroin after late parties

Lady Gormanston, wife of Lord Gormanston, premier viscount of Ireland, died from the effects of an overdose of heroin, an inquest at Westminster Coroner's Court, London, was told yesterday.

Lady Gormanston, aged 29, a mother of two, was found collapsed in the back of a friend's car early one day last month after two late-night parties, and died an hour later in the Westminster Hospital, London.

Dr Ian West, the pathologist, told Westminster Coroner's Court that traces of cocaine were found in the body, but his main finding was a "substantial dose" - a very high level of morphine - the residue of heroin which she had "probably snorted" a few hours before.

"She died from the effects of heroin, which would have induced vomiting, and I give the cause of death aspiration of vomit due to opiate overdose."

Dr Knapman, recording a verdict of non-dependent abuse of drugs, said: "One thing is conspicuous in its absence, of all the evidence, how did she come by the heroin and cocaine? No one is able to help us."

"This is another case of a

death through heroin. The Lord Chief Justice himself has recently drawn attention to the dangers of cocaine and this is a melancholy description of what can happen."

Lord Gormanston, aged 45, told the court that he and his wife left their home at Delmy House, Thurloe Place, South Kensington, London, at 10pm on Saturday, November 17, and spent a few hours at a party hosted by Mr Alex Butler, a company director, at his house in Blenheim Crescent, Notting Hill, London.

After a few drinks the couple were driven to the home of Mr Brian Walsh, an antique dealer and an acquaintance of Lord Gormanston, in Fulham Road, west London.

Lord Gormanston was unable to say where his wife had obtained the drugs or when she had taken them. He put her malaise down to a combination of alcohol and tablets she had taken for an allergy.

Mr Walsh said in evidence that after drinking champagne and watching videos he fell asleep and in the early hours was woken by Lord Gormanston, who was concerned that he could not rouse his wife. "We carried her downstairs to the

car, and we took her to Gwyn's."

Asked if he knew when Lady Gormanston had taken cocaine and heroin, Mr Walsh said: "I have no idea. I saw nothing of that at the party."

Lord Gormanston, who does not drive, was directing him to the home in Ebury Mews, Belgraveia, south-west London, of Mrs Gwendoline Puro, a close friend of Lady Gormanston, when police followed them because the vehicle was being driven erratically. The police called for assistance when Lord Gormanston identified himself, and Lady Gormanston was found in a state of collapse.

Police Constable Douglas Tullock told the inquest that shortly after 7am on November 18 he noticed the car Mr Walsh was driving.

"He had not done anything wrong. It was just the manner of his driving. He seemed to be going very fast but seemed lost."

PC Tullock said that he stopped the car and after Lord Gormanston produced his security pass for the House of Lords he asked Mr Walsh, the driver, for identification. Mr Walsh could not produce anything to verify his ownership of the car and he searched the vehicle and found Lady Gormanston collapsed on the back seat.

When he said it looked as though Lady Gormanston had taken a drug overdose, Mr Walsh replied: "That's enough officer. There is no need for that. What's your number?"

Lord Gormanston had said: "It's all right - she's been like this before. She's taken some tablets for asthma and she's had a drink". He called for assistance, and Lady Gormanston was taken by ambulance to Westminster Hospital where she died at 8.10am.



Lady Gormanston: a fatal overdose, and Lord Gormanston: concerned at wife's condition.

Drug epidemic among privileged young

By Robin Young
Cocaine and heroin are widespread among the party-going sets of London's wealthiest districts. Many victims are young businessmen with public school backgrounds. Such people are reckoned to occupy at least a third of the beds at the Charter Clinic in Chelsea, where treatment for drug dependency costs £20 an hour.

In fashionable night clubs cocaine is sold every night at prices up to £100 for a gram, and heroin, with a street value of about £30,000 a pound, is reckoned by users to be a cheaper form of entertainment than going to the cinema or public house. As little as £10 worth can keep a user happy for 24 hours.

Heroin addiction has multiplied sixfold in Britain in the

past five years but Lord Lane, the Lord Chief Justice, recently quoted an expert as saying that cocaine, often called the drug-user's champagne, was potentially the most lethal drug of the 1980s because many people do not realize how addictive it is. Scotland Yard says that the latest fashion among the smart set for "speedballing" - mixing heroin and cocaine - is peculiarly dangerous.

Mild winter blamed for bean surplus

Mild winter weather was blamed by management at the Heinz baked beans factory at North Walsham, Norfolk, yesterday as the reason for its decision to put 200 workers on a three-day week in January and instruct them to take a Christmas break of two weeks instead of nine days.

A spokesman said: "People have not been buying so many beans and other such foods to keep them warm. We are overstocked because of the mild weather."

Gems haul by armed raiders

Jewellery and gemstones worth several hundred thousand pounds were stolen yesterday when an armed gang raided the offices of a manufacturing jeweller in New Bond Street, central London.

Staff at NDC Ltd opened a security door to a man with a claim to be a postman with a delivery. He then produced a handgun and two other raiders joined him.

Selfridge's win name ban

A south London trader who called his shop "Selfridges" because he sold "fridges" was banned from using the name by a High Court judge yesterday.

Mr John Moore, who trades at Clapham High Street, is being sued by the owners of Selfridge's store in Oxford Street, who claim that his shop's name is likely to cause confusion. Last month Mr Moore was banned by the High Court from calling his shop "Harrods" after a complaint from Harrods in Knightsbridge.

Silver stolen

Georgian silver worth £17,000 was stolen from the 1st Battalion, the Gloucestershire Regiment by two men who knocked a soldier unconscious when he disturbed them in the officers' mess at Lucknow Barracks, Tidworth Garrison, Wiltshire.

Joyride baby

Simone Redway, aged two, was driven away by a car thief in Birmingham yesterday after her father left her to buy a newspaper. She was found unharmed in the abandoned car.

Trophies theft

Kenny Dalgligh, the Scotland and Liverpool footballer, was robbed last night of his trophies from his club's record-breaking 1983-1984 season when thieves broke into his home in Birkenhead, Southport.

The inspiration of personal endurance and bravery



Faces of bravery: Princess Anne with the 10 recipients of "Children of Courage" awards and Mr Jim MacLean (Photograph: John Manning).

Princess presents awards to 'children of courage'

A cast of celebrities including the Two Ronnies, Ronnie Barker and Ronnie Corbett, Rod Hull and Emu, and Shakin' Stevens, were at yesterday's presentation of children of courage awards by Princess Anne in Westminster Abbey.

The presentation of the annual awards to ten children aged from two to 13 came after a carol service conducted by the Dean of Westminster. Awards went to:

Michael Ross, aged 13, who fought off three masked raiders at his village post office home in Moray, Scotland. He required hospital treatment for injuries after being clubbed with a wooden baton and punched as he fought to protect Mrs Ann Ross, his widowed mother, and grandmother aged 70.

"I just acted instinctively," he said yesterday. "I didn't stop to think."

Andrew Boosey aged 11 of Tyberington, Avon, who took control of a speeding car when his mother, who was driving, was knocked unconscious.

The mother was driving Andrew to a barber in Bristol when a boiling hose collided with the car Mrs Penelope Boosey collapsed and

Andrew had to climb over and try to bring the car to a halt when it veered across the road.

Kelly Smith, aged 11, of Bromley, Kent, saved her family from a fire at their home. She went downstairs to make a cup of tea for her mother and found the living room on fire.

She went to a neighbour to telephone the fire brigade and then took her brother and sister to their grandparents' house nearby.

Gary Plaine, aged 3, of Cog Lane, Burnley, lost his legs after a gust of wind blew him into the path of a lorry.

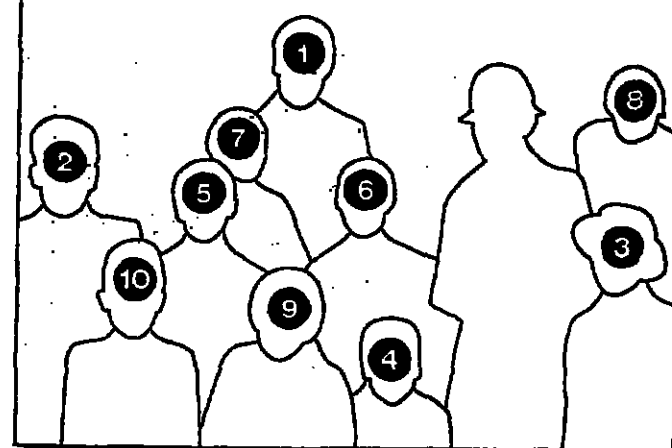
Within three months he was walking on his first pair of artificial legs. Since then, he has worn out two pairs - and his parents.

"There's just no stopping Gary," said his mother Lynn.

Dominic Jones, aged 12, of Port Talbot, West Glamorgan, rugby tackled an escaping man during a police chase, after a police officer had called for help.

He was carried along for a short while before being forced to let go but the man was arrested shortly afterwards.

Simon Wright, aged 9, of Selly Oak, Birmingham, saved his young



cousin Andrew from being savaged by an australian dog.

While the pair were playing the dog suddenly jumped on Andrew's back. Simon grabbed it by the collar and hauled it away, returning it to the owner, and then carried Andrew indoors.

Bradley Rudgely, aged 12, admitted he was terrified when he rescued his mother, grandmother, sister and her friend, both aged five, from their blazing car after an accident.

"I was very frightened, but I had to get them out so I just got on with it," said Bradley, of Sheering, Essex.

The car caught fire after a collision and his mother knocked unconscious. Bradley released her seat belt and helped her to safety, after helping the other passengers escape from the back of the car.

Emma MacLean, aged two, is recovering from a crippling disease after a bone marrow transplant from her sister Louise.

Louise MacLean, aged four, had to overcome her own fears about the operation which took place when Emma was aged nine months. "She was terrified," said her father Jim.

Emma faced only a few crippling years of life before the operation at the Westminster Children's Hospital, London.

Gary Doogan, aged six, saved his best friend Steven Hendry, aged five, from an icy pond on Putney Heath, south London.

Gary ignored his fear of water, grabbed his friend's collar and hauled him out. "It was easy," he said.

Revellers fly to snow and sun

A record number of Britons are flying abroad for Christmas, in pursuit of snow and sun. Package holidays to The Gambia and the ski slopes of Europe are well booked, according to tour operators.

Blue Sky Holidays said that it had sold out of package holidays to The Gambia some time ago. Its bookings for skiing holidays are up by 30 per cent on last year.

British Caledonian Charter, which provides seats for up to ten tour operators, reports a 50 per cent increase in Christmas passengers. British Caledonian is flying home many Britons resident abroad, from places such as Hong Kong.

In Britain a white Christmas is unlikely. During this century London has had only four white Christmases.

British Airways has broken its Christmas mail record by moving 1,275 tonnes through its Heathrow mail terminal in one week. Its busiest day was last Friday.

Air mail coming into London from Europe is up by 16 per cent and correspondence from Britain to the United States has increased by 36 per cent. The mail terminal staff have handled more than 900,000 bags since the beginning of October.

The AA said that some of the heaviest road traffic yesterday was in Manchester, where there has been a late increase in Christmas shopping. Motorways are not expected to become busy until tomorrow.

Airline plans £288 peak return to US

A new airline plans to begin cut price flights to New York from Gatwick, Prestwick and Belfast next May at peak season return fares of £288.

British Emerald Airways is an Ulster-based company formed last year by New York tours operator Mr Bill Best, and now chaired by Mr Bill Walker, the MP for Tayside North who is secretary of the Conservatives' aviation committee at Westminster.

Mr Best announced yesterday he was investing £17 million in a second-hand DC10, and his aircraft would be registered in Britain and have a British crew.

It is predicted that 70 per cent of the airline's traffic would originate in the USA.

A new super-ferry costing £40 million is to enter the North Sea service between Harwich and Hamburg within two years to cope with steadily expanding traffic between Britain and Germany. DFDS Seaways announced yesterday.

Tea is still the favourite drink despite rising cost

By John Young

Despite steep price rises and strong competition from other drinks, tea has retained its dominant place in British affections, according to the annual report of the Tea Council, published yesterday.

Prices at auctions have doubled, largely because of rapidly increasing domestic demand in India, and retail prices have risen from about 34p to 56p a 125gram packet in the past eight months. But demand has remained stable at

168,000 tonnes this year.

The British drink an average of four cups of tea each every day, about half their total consumption of non-alcoholic beverages. It is more than twice as popular as coffee, and four cups are drunk for every equivalent unit of soft drinks. Two thirds of the tea sold is in bags. It accounts for 81 per cent of all beverages drunk first thing in the morning, 75 per cent at breakfast, 67 per cent at midday and 77 per cent in the afternoon.

Christmas boom for microwave cookers

By Derek Harris
Commercial Editor

After the video recorder and home computer sales boom the latest is that of microwave cookers, whose sales this year are expected to be up by more than half.

A microwave cooker is this year's most fashionable present from husband to wife, according to sales patterns at one of the biggest department stores of the John Lewis Partnership.

At the John Lewis store at Brent Cross, north London, the managing director, Mr Nicholas Walderman Brown, said: "This is the microwave cooker Christmas as far as we are concerned."

"A lot of wives seem to want them because they can turn out meals so quickly. Last year the popular demand was for a home computer; the year before it was the video recorder."

Department stores account for an unusually large proportion of microwave sales, according to a survey by Market Assessment.

About 22 per cent of sales go through department stores, probably because the higher socio-economic groups have taken most readily to microwave cooking. Sales have also been greater in southern Britain than in the north.

Rumelows, the electrical retailing chain, also report microwave sales in the run-up to Christmas to be at least double those of last year. They may prove to have risen by 60 per cent during 1984, Mr Peter Jackson, Rumelows' marketing director, said.

In 1983 there was a 48 per cent increase in microwave sales and a further 58 per cent rise is forecast for this year in the Market Assessment survey. By the end of this year there are likely to be at least 2.3 million microwaves in use.

Japanese products dominate the market, but one cooker, expected soon to pass final acceptability tests, will be entirely British-made.

Market Assessment Product Group Report 46. (Market Assessment Publications, 2 Duncan Terrace, London N1 8BZ, £150).

HOW MICROWAVE SALES ARE GROWING

Year	Sales (£m)
1978	45,000
1979	95,000
1980	120,000
1981	245,000
1982	385,000
1983	570,000
1984	900,000
1985*	1,100,000
1986*	1,150,000
1987*	1,300,000
1988*	1,300,000

*Estimates **forecast
Source: Microwave Oven Association and Market Assessment

Market shares by brand

Brand	%
Toshiba	21
Sharp	20
Tristar (Thomson)	14
Philips	13
Sanyo	8
National Panasonic	5
UK assembly	5

Source: Market Assessment

Peer's divorce

Lord Camden, aged 53, was granted a special procedure divorce yesterday on the ground that he and his wife have lived apart for more than two years.

We can't take away the pain this child has been through. But with your help, we'll do our best to make sure it never happens to her again.

For the past hundred years, the NSPCC has been giving aid and comfort to abused children using your donations.

Her father bruised, burnt and broke her arm. Now we want to twist yours.

Last year, over 43,000 children relied on us for help. This year marks our centenary and there's no sign of a significant reduction in the number of children who need help.

Anything you can send will be used to provide help immediately, for example even if you send as little as £5.60 it would help us to protect a child for one week.

When you realise what your money will achieve, you'll find that having your arm twisted doesn't hurt at all.

Yes, I would like to help, and I enclose my cheque or postal order for £..... Access and Visa card holders may debit their accounts. No. BLOCK CAPITALS PLEASE

Signature.....

Name.....

Address.....

Postcode.....

Please send your donation to Dr A. Gilmore, NSPCC, Ref. 49091, 67 Saffron Hill, London EC3N 8RS. We've helped 9 million children in the last 100 years.

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US presents united Nato to counter Kremlin Star Wars propaganda

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

The Reagan Administration is confident that the Soviet Union will not be able to drive a propaganda wedge between Washington and its European NATO allies on President Reagan's controversial "Star Wars" defence initiative.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher will brief Mr Reagan at Saturday's Camp David meeting on her talks in Britain with Mr Mikhail Gorbachev on the prospects for arms control, including space weapons.

Washington is determined

not to appear at odds with Britain or other NATO allies on the Star Wars programme. The Administration has repeatedly pointed out that the President's strategic defence initiative - the so-called Star Wars programme - is only a research project.

The United States is willing to discuss what the Soviet Union describes as the demilitarization of space in the Geneva talks next month between Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State, and Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet

Foreign Minister. The talks will also cover intermediate-range and strategic nuclear missiles.

Mrs Thatcher, with other NATO leaders, has expressed general concern about preventing any militarization of space, a view shared by the Administration. A senior Reagan official told *The Times* that Washington was confident of allied support for the research programme.

The Administration maintains that the strategic defence initiative will not, contrary to Moscow's claim, violate the 1972 Soviet-US anti-ballistic missile treaty. Washington, however, is not willing to accept Moscow's call for a moratorium at the outset of the Geneva talks on the testing of anti-satellite weapons, although it is ready to discuss the issue in the negotiations proper.

Administration officials claim that Moscow's tactics are to divide the European allies from the US on the Star Wars issue and prevent further American testing of anti-satellite weapons early next year - weapons in which Moscow has a lead already.

Mr Caspar Weinberger, the US Defence Secretary, said this week that in his talks with Mrs Thatcher in London recently, she shared the feeling "that we don't want another



Pointing the way: Mr Caspar Weinberger, the US Defence Secretary, at a Pentagon press conference after winning an internal Cabinet battle over military spending

arms race or a continuation of the arms race."

Congress has already voted money for the strategic defence initiative research programme and the Pentagon this week named 10 industry teams to make the first studies of concepts for the Administration's \$30 billion (£25 billion) Star Wars space-based missile defence system.

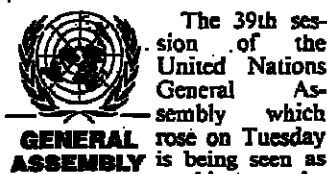
Each was awarded a million

dollar contract to evaluate the performance and costs of existing and future technologies, such as lasers, to be used in the programme. The strategic defence initiative would be signed to protect US and NATO allies from Soviet missiles. The teams were asked to submit their results in about five months, when other contractors will be selected to do more detailed research.

Three months at the UN

More power to the West

From Zoriana Pysariwsky New York



The 39th session of the United Nations General Assembly, which rose on Tuesday, is being seen as marking the return of Western influence to a body previously ruled by radical interests. Diplomats are hailing it as the most moderate session in recent memory where many hardline arguments once taken as gospel have been rejected as esoteric and outdated.

This new moderation has permeated most of the 141 items debated over the three-month period and bears the mark of a determination by the United States to respond aggressively to anti-Western deeds and rhetoric in the organization.

It also coincides with the crisis of the world's crippling economy and a Third World awareness that it must look to the West for answers, not through confrontation but accommodation.

The decision by the Reagan Administration in 1983 to reduce aid to Zimbabwe partly because of its UN voting pattern has cast a long shadow over the assembly.

One highlight is the consensus declaration on the economic crisis in Africa which blended Western interests with African needs to produce a practical blueprint for change. Missing are the anti-West slogans, and, much to the dismay of the Soviet Union, charges from the

Africans that their problems are the legacy of colonialism.

Ironically, at a time when the Reagan Administration is under domestic pressure to remove its investment from South Africa, the Assembly voted to remove references to American collusion with Pretoria in its anti-apartheid resolutions.

The shifting fortunes of the Palestine Liberation Organization and the disappearance of even a semblance of Arab unity strengthened Israel's diplomatic position and brought it out of an international isolation imposed for more than a decade.

Radical Arab states lost ground on many of the key Middle East resolutions. In the Middle East debates the international community began moving away from viewing the antagonists of the region exclusively through an anti-Israel glass.

And in the decolonization committee, the US removed references to Israel on resolutions broadly dealing with

colonial situations and the Israelis defeated a credentials challenge by Iran.

At the start of the Assembly in September, Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State, met his Soviet counterpart, Mr Andrei Gromyko, and set the groundwork for what most diplomats believe will be the start of an American-Soviet rapprochement in the New Year.

Mr Gromyko's proposals on a ban on space weapons and state terrorism fared poorly, however. The former was withdrawn for lack of support and the latter was amended.

The Soviet Union suffered its greatest defeat in the Assembly when 119 countries condemned its invasion of Afghanistan, demonstrating that censure of the occupation would not fade with time.

The Association of South East Asian countries increased its majority on a resolution condemning Vietnam's occupation of Cambodia.

Iran's tendency to play the iconoclast of the international community worked against it on an anti-Iraqi chemical weapons resolution which in normal circumstances would have been easily adopted.

A scarcely noticed resolution setting up a convention against torture was perhaps the assembly's most significant achievement. Unlike most resolutions which are simply normally binding. The treaty, when ratified, will become part of a state's legal code.

CBS man defends Vietnam programme

New York (NYT) - Mr George Crile, producer of a disputed CBS documentary on the Vietnam war, has described the calculation of enemy strength by General William C. Westmoreland's command in 1967 as "akin to an intelligence atrocity."

Mr Crile, testifying for the seventh day on Tuesday at General Westmoreland's \$120 million (about £100 million) libel suit against the network in the Federal Court in Manhattan, said the General's command had engaged in a "shell game" in its estimates of North Vietnamese and Vietcong troop strength in the months preceding the communists' Tet offensive of January 1968.

He said the command's low figures for the enemy misled American leaders and deprived them of the ability to reassess policies at a "critical juncture" of the war.

His eyes fixed on the jury, hands cupped and flapping in supporting gestures, the producer, aged 39, spent the afternoon being cross-examined by Mr David Boies, the lawyer for CBS. Mr Crile had been called as a "hostile witness" by Mr Dan M. Burt, General Westmoreland's lawyer.

Using an August 1967 cable from General Westmoreland's headquarters to high-ranking military and civilian officials, Mr Burt attempted to show that Washington had not been kept in the dark about Saigon's decision to delete the Vietcong's self-defence forces from the

official listing of enemy strength.

Mr Crile conceded that the cable had been widely distributed, even perhaps to the White House, but insisted that it incorporated "fake and dishonest intelligence."

Under cross-examination Mr Crile was adamant that military leaders had provided a "distorted picture" of a "degraded" enemy who soon showed his real capabilities during the Tet offensive.

The offensive might not have been a military victory for the North Vietnamese and Vietcong forces, Mr Crile said, but it dealt a "devastating psychological" blow to the "aura of optimism" fostered by the Administration of President Johnson.

Mr Burt had accused Mr Crile of fabricating parts of that programme, *The Uncounted Enemy: A Vietnam Deception*, and on Tuesday Mr Boies asked Mr Crile: "Did you make up anything in connection with the broadcast?" Mr Crile replied: "Absolutely not."

General Westmoreland, now 70 years old and retired, commanded US forces in Vietnam from January 1964 to June 1968.

He contends that CBS defamed him by saying he had deceived President Johnson and the Joint Chiefs of Staff about the true size and nature of the enemy in late 1967.

The hearing went into a two-week holiday recess after a juror became ill.

40 arrests in Austrian dam protest

Vienna (Reuters) - Six policemen and 11 protesters were hurt yesterday when Austrian police cleared people blocking work on a dam that environmentalists say will destroy one of the last primeval forests in Europe.

Eight hundred policemen were ordered into the forest of Hainburg, on the Danube between Vienna and the Czechoslovak border, to move 1,500 environmentalists camping in freezing weather. Forty people were arrested.

Protesters say the hydroelectric project will destroy the forest, because the dam will greatly reduce flooding needed for the ecological system to survive.

Hundreds of protesters had flocked to the site to obstruct tree felling and demand the halting of construction pending a referendum.

Yesterday's injuries and arrests happened after protesters attempted to break through a police cordon. Herr Günther Niening, a journalist and opponent of the dam, accused the police of brutality against people indulging in passive resistance. "I saw women and children being beaten."

Police denied the charges. They said they had used force only in self-defence.

● LINZ: An oil slick, believed to be from a barge, was moving along the Danube yesterday between Vienna and Linz.

Professor claims Bach music find

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

A Harvard professor of music says he has discovered 33 previously unknown compositions by Johann Sebastian Bach, composed between 1700 and about 1708 when Bach was in his late teens and early twenties.

Professor Christoph Wolff, chairman of Harvard's music department, said he found the works, which are all for organ, in the Yale University library. "The rather embarrassing and amusing thing is that it took someone from Harvard to show Yale what they have."

A bound manuscript containing the works has been the property of Yale since 1873. It has been kept in Yale's Beinecke rare book and manuscript library recently. The manuscript includes 83 works by various composers, including several other members of the Bach family Mr Wolff said.

Previously, it was known only that the manuscript contained organ music of the late 17th and 18th centuries.

Professor Wolff has been researching in the Yale library for several years.

He insisted that there could be no doubt about the authenticity of the works by J. S. Bach. He has played the newly discovered works on an organ. "The overall quality is remarkable."

Spanish hopes rise for EEC deal next month

From Ian Murray, Brussels

Señor Fernando Morán, the Spanish Foreign Minister, is hopeful that negotiations for his country to join the EEC can be successfully concluded next month.

His optimism came yesterday in Brussels after he reached agreement on three more areas needing to be settled. The most important of those to Britain covered the way to phase out Spain's high industrial tariffs on goods such as domestic appliances and cars.

At the moment British cars are virtually excluded from the Spanish market because a tax of more than 36 per cent is levied on them. Other items, such as refrigerators, have tax levels of more than 20 per cent.

Under the new agreement Spain will eliminate its import taxes progressively over seven years. In the first three years they will come down by just over half.

At the same time Spain is to allow a quota of 32,000 cars

in the year it joins at a rate of no more than 17.4 per cent. This quota will rise to 36,000 in the next year and to 40,000 in the third year, by which time the lower tariff levels will be in force.

Britain and Italy have been told they will have 2,000 cars of the quota each reserved exclusively for them while the rest will be available to whoever can sell cars fastest.

The second agreement covered steel production. For the first three years after joining, the Community Spain will be allowed to sell no more than 827,500 tonnes a year to other member states, unless there is a surge in demand. That is slightly above its present export level to the EEC.

The third area agreed was on Spanish representation in the Community institutions. It is to have 60 Euro-MPs.

The most difficult negotiations, covering agriculture and fishing, are ahead.

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Be honest, one more tie and the rack will collapse.

Might we suggest instead, something to sharpen his image.

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scarcely need the instruction book, all you have to do is press the button."

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OLYMPUS

Weinberger deplores paper's disclosure of shuttle spy mission

From Christopher Thomas Washington

Mr Casper Weinberger, the US Defence Secretary, yesterday deplored the *Washington Post* of "the height of journalistic irresponsibility" in revealing that the next space shuttle will carry a military spy satellite to be positioned over the Soviet Union.

It was well known that the shuttle, due for launch on January 23, would carry a secret payload. The Pentagon had reached agreement with news agencies, the television network and the press to keep the details confidential.

Mr Ben Bradley, Editor-in-Chief of *The Washington Post*, said that he knew of no requests to the newspaper to keep the cargo of the shuttle a secret. Certainly, no request had been received by him. There was little difference between the paper's story and a report that had been broadcast by the Columbia Broadcasting System.

Mr Weinberger said the story could affect national security. Mr Bradley insisted: "That argument makes no sense at all."

The secrecy agreement was announced on Tuesday by Brigadier Richard Abel, Chief

of Public Affairs for the Air Force. "We intend to protect the identity, mission and all operational details of Department of Defence payloads," he said.

Over the next three years almost all US military space missions will be by space shuttle. Air Force officials said eight to ten military shuttle missions would be launched each year under the programme was fully under way.

The *New York Times*, which clearly knew the nature of the next shuttle mission, did not reveal details in yesterday's issue. A front page story began, somewhat tongue-in-cheek: "Defence Department officials, elaborating on a newly announced policy of secrecy surrounding the space shuttle when it carries military cargo, acknowledged today that little information would be kept from the Russians but said even that was worth the try."

The *Washington Post* said the new military intelligence satellite would collect electronic signals and transmit them to a US receiving station on Earth. The satellite would be positioned over the western portion of the Soviet Union.

It stated: "The \$300 million (\$250 million) satellite would be the most important and largest of the so-called signals intelligence, or Sigint, satellites, four or five of which already hover above the Soviet Union." The paper quoted "informed sources".

Svetlana to make home in Georgia

From Richard Owen Tbilisi

Stalin's daughter Svetlana Alliluyeva, who has not been seen in Moscow for a month, is planning to live in the dictator's native republic of Georgia with her American-born daughter, Olga, informed sources here say.

There are also reports that Volgograd may revert to the name Stalingrad as part of a growing campaign to rehabilitate Stalin's memory.

Georgian officials, including Nina Ameridzhie, chief curator of the Stalin Museum at Gori, Stalin's Georgian birthplace, confirmed that Svetlana had flown from Moscow to Tbilisi last Sunday. She was taken to an official guest house in the Georgian capital.

Local officials said she had come to her father's homeland to "look around" and to inspect the school which Olga will attend in Tbilisi. Olga, aged 13, is Svetlana's child by her short marriage to an American architect, and speaks neither Russian nor Georgian.

Few of Stalin's relatives are still in Georgia, except for Visarion, the grandson of Stalin's son, Yakov, who died in a German prisoner of war camp in 1943 after Stalin had refused to exchange him for General von Paulus, the defeated German commander at Stalingrad.

Visarion studies at the Tbilisi Agricultural Academy, but is serving in the army.

Svetlana caused a sensation by returning to the Soviet Union from England at the end of October after 17 years in the West, mostly in the United States. At a press conference on November 16 she claimed she had never felt free in the West for a single day.

Her return has coincided with a growing reassessment of Stalin in the period leading up to next May's celebrations marking the 40th anniversary of the "Victory over Fascism". The Stalin museum at Gori expects a large number of visitors tomorrow, the 105th anniversary of Stalin's birth.

Miss Ameridzhie said she hoped Svetlana would attend the celebrations honouring her father. "I hope she will be here, I expect it," she said.

One million people have visited the Stalin museum so far this year, breaking all previous records.

Mr Timur Stepanov, head of the Georgian news agency Gruziinform, said Stalin's memory was cherished in Gori, and the Soviet war generation still recalled those who had died in the fight against Hitler. But Georgians were less enthusiastic about Svetlana, who sought asylum in the West in 1967.

"The prodigal daughter has not been forgiven," he said.

South African police seize ITN film

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

The South African security police yesterday raided the offices here of Independent Television News (ITN) and seized nearly three dozen video cassettes containing film shot in South Africa and other countries over a period of more than two years. The raid appears to be unprecedented.

Four policemen in plain clothes turned up at the office in a northern Johannesburg suburb with a search warrant signed by the local magistrate which said the cassettes could "afford evidence of the commission, or suspected commission, of an offence".

ITN's chief correspondent here, Mr Peter Sharp, is on holiday, and when the police arrived there was only a secretary in the office. She alerted Mr Keith Shaw, a freelance producer, who also works for ITN.

In a bizarre scene, ITN then filmed the police search of its own office. The police eventually took away 33 cassettes, for which Mr Shaw signed an inventory. The police told him the material would be returned tomorrow, presumably after it has been copied.

Most of the seized film concerns recent unrest in African townships, last August's elections to the new Indian and coloured (mixed race) chambers of Parliament and meetings of the United Democratic Front, a multiracial alliance of extra-parliamentary opposition groups.

Eight leading members of the UDF, five of whom took refuge in the British Consulate in Durban, were charged recently with treason, an

Spoil yourself



Moscow chess draw again after 20 moves

Moscow (AP) - World chess champion Anatoly Karpov and Gary Kasparov played to a draw by repetition yesterday in the 34th game of their world title contest and tied the record for most games played in a chess championship.

White, Kasparov; Black, Karpov.

1 P-Q4 P-Q4 2 P-Q4 P-Q4 3 P-Q4 P-Q4 4 P-Q4 P-Q4 5 P-Q4 P-Q4 6 P-Q4 P-Q4 7 P-Q4 P-Q4 8 P-Q4 P-Q4 9 P-Q4 P-Q4 10 P-Q4 P-Q4 11 P-Q4 P-Q4 12 P-Q4 P-Q4 13 P-Q4 P-Q4 14 P-Q4 P-Q4 15 P-Q4 P-Q4 16 P-Q4 P-Q4 17 P-Q4 P-Q4 18 P-Q4 P-Q4 19 P-Q4 P-Q4 20 P-Q4 P-Q4

Draw agreed

2 P-Q4 P-Q4 3 P-Q4 P-Q4 4 P-Q4 P-Q4 5 P-Q4 P-Q4 6 P-Q4 P-Q4 7 P-Q4 P-Q4 8 P-Q4 P-Q4 9 P-Q4 P-Q4 10 P-Q4 P-Q4 11 P-Q4 P-Q4 12 P-Q4 P-Q4 13 P-Q4 P-Q4 14 P-Q4 P-Q4 15 P-Q4 P-Q4 16 P-Q4 P-Q4 17 P-Q4 P-Q4 18 P-Q4 P-Q4 19 P-Q4 P-Q4 20 P-Q4 P-Q4

Draw agreed

2 P-Q4 P-Q4 3 P-Q4 P-Q4 4 P-Q4 P-Q4 5 P-Q4 P-Q4 6 P-Q4 P-Q4 7 P-Q4 P-Q4 8 P-Q4 P-Q4 9 P-Q4 P-Q4 10 P-Q4 P-Q4 11 P-Q4 P-Q4 12 P-Q4 P-Q4 13 P-Q4 P-Q4 14 P-Q4 P-Q4 15 P-Q4 P-Q4 16 P-Q4 P-Q4 17 P-Q4 P-Q4 18 P-Q4 P-Q4 19 P-Q4 P-Q4 20 P-Q4 P-Q4

Draw agreed

2 P-Q4 P-Q4 3 P-Q4 P-Q4 4 P-Q4 P-Q4 5 P-Q4 P-Q4 6 P-Q4 P-Q4 7 P-Q4 P-Q4 8 P-Q4 P-Q4 9 P-Q4 P-Q4 10 P-Q4 P-Q4 11 P-Q4 P-Q4 12 P-Q4 P-Q4 13 P-Q4 P-Q4 14 P-Q4 P-Q4 15 P-Q4 P-Q4 16 P-Q4 P-Q4 17 P-Q4 P-Q4 18 P-Q4 P-Q4 19 P-Q4 P-Q4 20 P-Q4 P-Q4

Draw agreed

2 P-Q4 P-Q4 3 P-Q4 P-Q4 4 P-Q4 P-Q4 5 P-Q4 P-Q4 6 P-Q4 P-Q4 7 P-Q4 P-Q4 8 P-Q4 P-Q4 9 P-Q4 P-Q4 10 P-Q4 P-Q4 11 P-Q4 P-Q4 12 P-Q4 P-Q4 13 P-Q4 P-Q4 14 P-Q4 P-Q4 15 P-Q4 P-Q4 16 P-Q4 P-Q4 17 P-Q4 P-Q4 18 P-Q4 P-Q4 19 P-Q4 P-Q4 20 P-Q4 P-Q4

Draw agreed

2 P-Q4 P-Q4 3 P-Q4 P-Q4 4 P-Q4 P-Q4 5 P-Q4 P-Q4 6 P-Q4 P-Q4 7 P-Q4 P-Q4 8 P-Q4 P-Q4 9 P-Q4 P-Q4 10 P-Q4 P-Q4 11 P-Q4 P-Q4 12 P-Q4 P-Q4 13 P-Q4 P-Q4 14 P-Q4 P-Q4 15 P-Q4 P-Q4 16 P-Q4 P-Q4 17 P-Q4 P-Q4 18 P-Q4 P-Q4 19 P-Q4 P-Q4 20 P-Q4 P-Q4

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Draw agreed

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Draw agreed

2 P-Q4 P-Q4 3 P-Q4 P-Q4 4 P-Q4 P-Q4 5 P-Q4 P-Q4 6 P-Q4 P-Q4 7 P-Q4 P-Q4 8 P-Q4 P-Q4 9 P-Q4 P-Q4 10 P-Q4 P-Q4 11 P-Q4 P-Q4 12 P-Q4 P-Q4 13 P-Q4 P-Q4 14 P-Q4 P-Q4 15 P-Q4 P-Q4 16 P-Q4 P-Q4 17 P-Q4 P-Q4 18 P-Q4 P-Q4 19 P-Q4 P-Q4 20 P-Q4 P-Q4

Draw agreed

2 P-Q4 P-Q4 3 P-Q4 P-Q4 4 P-Q4 P-Q4 5 P-Q4 P-Q4 6 P-Q4 P-Q4 7 P-Q4 P-Q4 8 P-Q4 P-Q4 9 P-Q4 P-Q4 10 P-Q4 P-Q4 11 P-Q4 P-Q4 12 P-Q4 P-Q4 13 P-Q4 P-Q4 14 P-Q4 P-Q4 15 P-Q4 P-Q4 16 P-Q4 P-Q4 17 P-Q4 P-Q4 18 P-Q4 P-Q4 19 P-Q4 P-Q4 20 P-Q4 P-Q4

Draw agreed

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Draw agreed

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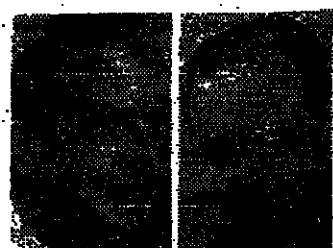
Rejection of Fabius TV debate offer highlights French divide

From Diana Geddes
Paris

The seemingly unbridgeable gulf separating the Right from the Left in French politics has again been highlighted by the refusal of M Raymond Barre, and M Jacques Chirac, two of the main opposition leaders, to accept the unusual invitation by M Laurent Fabius, the Prime Minister, to a face-to-face debate on television. Such challenges normally come from the Opposition to the Government rather than vice versa.

M Barre and M Chirac were clearly taken off guard by the offer, and took more than 24 hours to concoct their less than convincing reply. After mutual consultation, both said while they would be prepared to engage in such a debate at the time of the parliamentary elections in 1986, now was not the time.

"In the present circumstances, France has no need of spectacles, whether televised or not, but of a coherent, firm and continuous government action," M Barre said, adding: "I do not see the real interest in a debate such as that proposed by M Fabius, save to distract people's attention from the real problems confronting the coun-



M Chirac: Off guard. M Barre: Lame reply.

try and from the Government's impotence."

In M Chirac's view, there was no sense in engaging in a debate with any of the Socialist Party leaders at the present time because it would "simply provide the party with another opportunity to abuse the right to speak on the national television channels, which the Opposition had been refused."

M Chirac was referring to an incident last October when M Fabius was offered a monthly quarter-of-an-hour slot on television to explain the Government's policies. An indignant Opposition immediately demanded, and was granted, a quarter-of-an-hour "right of reply," but in the end turned it down, denouncing the Govern-

ment's political exploitation of the news media.

Soon after being appointed Prime Minister last July, M Fabius announced that it would be his aim to seek a political "decentration" and "Rassemblement". To that end, he invited two opposition MPs to help him with a government inquiry into the two areas where he believed political consensus was both possible and desirable: law and order, and the needs of the elderly.

The offer was rejected out of hand, however, and all M Fabius's other apparently friendly overtures have been met with a similar rebuff. "In a democracy," M Chirac explained, "the government's role is to assume its responsibilities; it is not the opposition's role to facilitate its task."

In France, where the political complexion of governments change relatively rarely, there is not the same tradition of political give and take as in Britain. While sessions in the National Assembly are normally much less stormy than in Westminster, it is rare to find deputies of opposing parties exchanging a friendly word in the corridors or meeting for a quiet drink in the bar after a debate. Each camp remains firmly entrenched.

Politics are a serious and often bitter business in France. A society hostess will take great care not to invite Socialists and Gaullists to the same dinner party for fear of an ugly explosion. To put up a poster in your front window during an election campaign declaring that you are for a certain political party is to invite a brick to be thrown through it.

A striking characteristic of recent local by-elections has been the very high abstention rate of something more than 65 per cent, which is most unusual in France. At a time of supposedly increasing polarization, it is interesting to note the results of a poll last month asking people what government they would like after the next parliamentary elections: 27 per cent opted for a government of national unity, which made it the equal favourite choice of government along with one consisting of the two main opposition parties.

Disunity of left grows over budget vote

From Our Correspondent, Paris

The wide split between French Socialists and Communists, partners in government until July, turned into a canyon-like breach when Communist Deputies voted against their former allies at the end of the 1985 budget debate early yesterday.

The Socialists, who have an absolute majority in the Assembly, were the vote. It was the first time since the left's election victory of 1981 that the Communists had taken this parliamentary step. Since their departure from government over the Socialists' austerity programme, they have engaged in a violent war of words and abstentions.

Their vote yesterday against the 1,000 billion franc (\$289 billion) budget was not a

surprise, as their 44-member group had been seeking a wide range of amendments to tax concessions that favour companies and landlords.

M André Lajoinie, the Communist Parliamentary leader, said there were 10,000 "millionaires" in France to be soaked and called for a doubling of taxes on large fortunes.

Communist leaders yesterday denied that their party was officially in opposition, but a former Communist minister, M Charles Fiterman, said: "Socialism has never been installed in France."

There is now a dangerous stand-off between the two parties before next year's cantonal elections and the 1986 parliamentary elections.

Le Monde candidate drops out

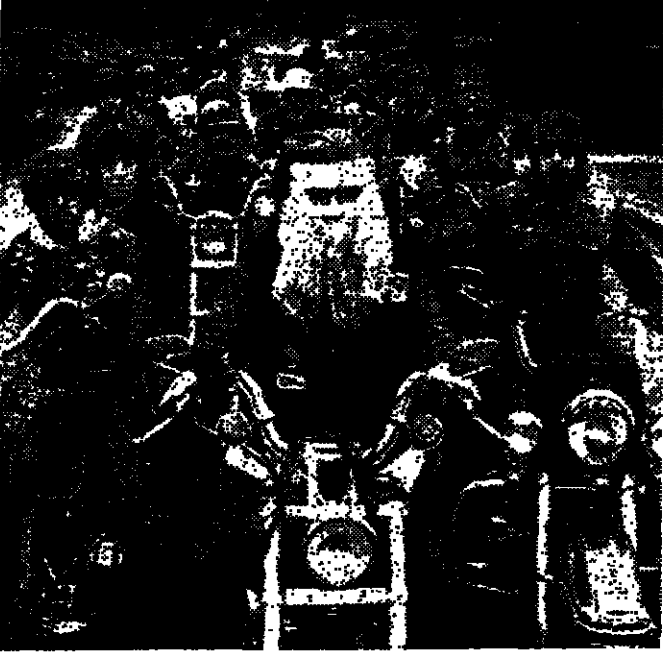
From Our Correspondent, Paris

The withdrawal of a front-runner for the job of editor and managing director of the financially shaky *Le Monde*, added to the confusion over the paper's future when the 200 journalists met yesterday to consider their choice for the post, which combines editorial and managerial responsibilities.

Shortly before the meeting, which promised to be long and stormy, the paper's leading foreign affairs specialist, M André Fontaine, withdrew from the race to succeed M André Laurens, who resigned a fortnight ago.

M Laurens had sought to sell the paper's headquarters on a lease-basis, to cut salaries and disburse with one of the two printing presses in an effort to stem losses, which have amounted to £7 million in recent years. These have resulted from a 70,000-copy drop in circulation to 360,000 each evening, due to the paper's somber image and failure to encourage investors.

To be appointed editor, a candidate needs a 60 per cent vote by shareholders. The journalists hold 40 per cent of the shares. Some still support M Laurens, who has repeated that the building must be sold. Today all the shareholders, journalists and non-journalists, will hold a mass meeting designed to pick an editor.



Santa on wheels: Members of the Longrids Motor-cycle Club of Western Massachusetts escorting a lorry full of toys to US Marine Corps reserves for distribution to needy families.

Lee admits risk in son's Singapore political debut

From Stephen Taylor, Singapore

Mr Lee Kuan Yew, Singapore's Prime Minister, admitted yesterday that the entry of his son into politics was a gamble for both of them.

At a rally of his People's Action Party in the run-up to Saturday's general election, he said that if his son, Brigadier Lee Hsien Loong, failed to come up to expectations "he's in for a nasty time - and I'm in for a ruinous time."

Nevertheless, Mr Lee said, his son was among six of 26 candidates introduced by the party who were capable of being much more than MPs. His comments yesterday struck a rare personal note in a campaign which he has said will be his last before retiring - perhaps to stand as elected

President with duties yet to be defined by Parliament. Brigadier Lee, aged 32, retired as Deputy Commander of the Defence Forces, earlier this year to enter politics, giving rise to suggestions that his father is trying to start a dynasty. A prominent figure during the campaign, the brigadier's personal appeal has made an impression on an electorate dulled by virtual one-party rule.

Voters have been taking an unusual interest in the rallies of opposition candidates, with those of Mr Ben Jeyaretnam's Workers' Party and the Singapore Democratic Party of Mr Chiam See Tong being particularly well attended.

Another crisis in the Basque country

Leader sacked in party wrangle

From Richard Wigg
Madrid

The Basque Nationalist Party yesterday added a remarkable new page to nearly a century of dramatic ups and downs by dismissing its Chief Minister, the man who led it in the regional election last February.

Señor Carlos Garaicoechea, aged 46, who had contributed much in the past five years as chief executive to rebuild the Basque autonomous state, crushed by Franco after the civil war, was sacked because he refused to accept the party's ruling on a distribution of financial powers between the government and the three provinces which constitute the Basque country.

"The party has denied me

indispensable support," Señor Garaicoechea said yesterday before informing the Speaker of the Basque Parliament, emphasizing that it was not a formal resignation. The party statutes require, however, that all members hold office at party discretion.

A successor is now being sought to fill the power vacuum in Spain's northern region, much troubled by ETA terrorism.

The party lacks a majority in the hung Parliament which emerged last February, and Señor Garaicoechea's supporters want to fight the party executive. The Chief Minister was negotiating a pact with the Basque Socialists which have offered a similar understanding to his successor.

Señor Garaicoechea was defeated by the peculiar but historic Basque hankering for the ancient *fueros* [rights] behind the two Carlist wars fought last century.

But it was a dispute over who controls the purse strings which sparked the crisis. Basque taxes are collected by the provinces which resented the Chief Minister's insistence that the Basque Government should have full powers to decide public spending.

Señor Garaicoechea represented the more modern social democratic wing of the middle-of-the-road nationalist party, while the executive is still dominated by Señor Xabier Arzallus, a former party chairman and former Jesuit with conservative views.

The Arts

Theatre: Irving Wardle on new productions in Paris and London

No escape from sacred repertory

Whatever the perishable novelties in the shop window, Paris theatre does most of its business with safe old brand names. Consult the listings, and there they all are again: the same charmed circle of favoured authors and indestructible stars. Madeleine Renaud still giving her *Happy Days* at the Rond-Point; Edwige Fenech supposedly bidding her public farewell in Anouilh's *Leocadia* at the Champs-Élysées; Jean Meyer - whom I first saw in Feydeau's *Le Dindon* in the 1950s - directing that same farce at the Palais-Royal.

Meyer, thirty years ago, was playing with the Comédie-Française and, as you comb through the Right Bank shows, it does seem as if the Comédie trains up its sociétaires to go out and colonize the commercial hinterland. The Variétés, for instance, is presenting *Les Temps difficiles*, an interesting piece by Edouard Bourdet, a pre-war administrator of the Comédie, directed by Pierre Dux, who lately held the same job and who has just made his comeback in Beckett's *Compagnie* at the Rond-Point. As for the sacred repertory, there is no escaping it, even for arch-rebels like Jérôme Savary, who now combines the direction of a *théâtre populaire* in Montpellier with running seasons at the Mogador. Here the old Savary is still visible in a children's show. *The Pig who went on a diet to marry a Pigeon* (not to mention a forthcoming return of the Grand Magic Circus); but what is really pulling the crowds into the Mogador is Savary's production of *Cyrano de Bergerac*.

To verify the feeling that nothing changes in Paris, I made a nostalgic return to the 60-seat Théâtre de la Huchette - home of the Ionesco double bill that has been playing there since 1957. I was wrong. Not that the two productions have altered a scrap, but their director, Nicholas Bataille, has at last added a third. You sit through the embalmed routines of *La Cantatrice chauve* and *Le Léon*; and then - in *Offenbach, tu connais?* - you see the company wearily assembling in a cramped dressing room to prepare for yet another performance of the show they have been doing for the past 28 years. Anything rather than that. What about an escape into opera? And, with the aid of mops, make-up towels, dustbins and a moody rehearsal pianist, they take off into *La Périochole* and *La Belle Hélène*, culminating with a spirited gallop executed in the sitting position. Ionesco it is not; but by that stage of the evening you are as grateful as the cast for a bit of poverty-theatre glamour.

A glance through the boulevard listings does not stir much interest in the up-market alternatives. One address offers a comedy about France's first woman President whose husband promptly defects from the Ellysée; another the sad story of an anorexic in a family of big eaters. You are hardly spoilt for choice when it comes to new writing; and the only novelty I decided to risk was a piece that first appeared in 1934.

Billed as "un *Dallas* bien français", *Les Temps difficiles* completes the cycle of bourgeois satires that Bourdet wrote during the Depression: a time when France experienced a deluge of industrial disasters, political scandals and govern-



Eclipsing all since Richardson: Jacques Weber's open-hearted sincerity as Cyrano, with the spirited Nicole Jamet

Bourdet reflects this sense of impending collapse in the story of a wealthy family poised on the edge of ruin, and ready to use any means to defend itself. Jérôme, the head of an endangered company, first patches things up with his alienated brother, Marcel, to dissuade him from selling his shares. Marcel's daughter then catches the eye of one of Jérôme's visitors - a brain-damaged industrial heir - and a marriage is swiftly arranged to repair the family fortunes. But no sooner has Bob, the idiot bridegroom, reduced his wife to a state of sleepless misery than it emerges that his millions, too, have vanished in gambling debts; and the two clans are left facing joint bankruptcy.

The interesting point is that Bourdet emerges as a thoroughly bourgeois writer, whose criticism is exclusively reserved for those who fail to uphold the correct bourgeois values. Three codes of manners are involved: those of Jérôme, who runs his family and his business as a real autocrat; those of Bob and his mother, who fatally neglects her business responsibilities for the enjoyment of money; and those of Marcel, who lives a quasi-artistic life supported on unearned income. The artistry of the piece consists of deploying the three groups so that each exposes the weaknesses of the others. Marcel, for instance, is superficially the most attractive of the principals; but, in spite of his vaunted belief in love and happiness, he caves in and allows his daughter to be sacrificed for money.

Jérôme, conversely, may appear a ruthless egoist; but he is also an honest man who lays out the reasons for the marriage deal without the smallest deception. As for Bob's millionaire mother, first seen as an idle pretentious she finally stands her ground and meets Jérôme's bitter accusations with the stoical line "You're right!"

The Variétés production is most sympathetically set by Georges Wakhevitch, whose palatial first-act veranda intensifies the glacial chill of Jérôme's lifeless well-bred household. With the arrival of the other groups, the ice speedily breaks up; notably at the entrance of Marcel's rowdy family who turn their side of the stage into

a games area with the spirited old grandma, while the remaining ladies telegraph their disapproval with the frosty click of knitting needles. The grandmother is played by Denise Grey, an enchanting actress who made her début at the Folies-Bergère in 1915. The casting throughout Dux's production is superlative; and the central duel between Guy Tréjan's commandingly adipose captain of industry and Jean-Pierre Cassel's wry, shoulder-shrugging artist-type brings a classic collision of social opposites.

Cyrano, whatever compromises it may represent, is a whole of a show, in which Savary's brand of panache runs in fine tandem with that of Rostand's hero. The opening fracas in the Hôtel de Bourgoigne, with Gascon cadets and traders of all kinds whooping it up in the jungle style of Savary's Zartan adventures, is barely comprehensible even to the French.

And I doubt the wisdom of presenting the villainous De Guiche (Yann Babilée) as a beffrified pansy given to asthmatic coughs whenever he strikes his matted chest. Otherwise the anarchy is well under control, and overflowing with apt stage gags. Not only does Savary send Roxane to the front line in a coach with a galloping horse; he then flies the coach to the roof when the cannons open up. Customers have a choice of four actors in the title role. Jacques Weber, whom I had the good luck to see, eclipses every performance I can remember since Ralph Richardson. He passes the first Cyrano test by opting for a genuinely grotesque nose, which he uses as aggressively as his rapier; and couples his bravado with an open-hearted sincerity that leaves him totally vulnerable in his dealings with Roxane. She, in turn (Nicole Jamet), emerges as a spirited coquette (arriving on the battlefield in purple thigh boots) instead of the bloodless beauties we have seen in the National and RSC revivals; and the partnership of Weber and Jamet with Bernard Bollet's blond, dull-witted Christian lifts the balcony scene to an exalted plane of romance, buffoonery and wit. Of the major directors whose work I saw on this trip, only Savary seems to love his actors.

Television

Subtle delights

"It's so Bromley to speak well of people behind their backs", declared an unattractive debutante in the last of Frederic Raphael's series *Oxbridge Blues* (BBC2). This oddly assorted collection of plays has not brought out the Bromley in most critics during its run, but last night's episode, *Sleeps Six*, was a splendid exception.

The plot concerned the rivalry of a whiz-kid working-class film producer and his languid, aristocratic agent. Raphael seems to have a great gift for causing irritation in his critics; there is a flippant fluency about his dialogue, which sounds too clever by half ("My condolences to the chef"). Unlike many British-born dramatists, Raphael unflinchingly deals with the champagne life-style - the climax of this piece took place in a luxurious villa in the south of France and all the sequences which charmingly established our hero's warm, loving, caring-sharing family life took place around the free-form swimming pool. Such sophistication is apparently offensive, not least when combined with viciously accurate observation of a kind of intellectual *demi-monde* in which renegade intellectuals shamelessly acquire wealth by peddling mass entertainment.

James Cellan Jones, who produced and directed *Sleeps Six*, handled the script's freer-than-freedom wit and gossamer nuances of caste with absolute confidence; there were marvelous performances by the three principal actors - Ben Kingsley as the producer, with a semi-rehabilitated Sarf Lunnnon accent, Jeremy Child as the embittered, promiscuous blue-blood and Diane Keen in the thankless role of idealized domestic goddess.

The characters of the two men, built up with delightful subtlety, were so satisfyingly familiar that the play had the air of a *roman-a-clef*. Their antagonism began in a lovingly recreated Sixties coffee bar as nothing more than twitting on the grounds of class - a newly discovered conversational topic in that era. As their relationship developed, and fame and fortune accrued, the two men were locked together in fruitless rivalry like doomed stags with tangled antlers.

While our hero enjoyed worldly success, he was still consumed by envy of his friend's social position, while the lord was equally eaten up by jealousy. At the end, with the accuracy of an intimate enemy, he found his friend's Achilles' heel.

Celia Brayfield

London debuts

Unusual clarity

The pianist Arthur Rowe from Alberta, in his recital at Canada House, displayed an unusual clarity of articulation at the keyboard, not only in his rhythmic urgency in Mozart's B-flat Sonata, K570, but in the steadiness of direction with which he invested Chopin's *Pologne-Fantaisie*. This often elusive work was stripped for action at the outset, as it were, then generated a developing tension while it also gathered poetry of expression.

The programme included *Six Aphorisms* by Mr Rowe's fellow-Canadian and professor of music at the University of Alberta, Alfred Fisher, which explored sonorities of piano wires plucked and stroked as well as the full reach of the keyboard. Sometimes reminiscent of Messiaen in their figuration, they put technical effects at the service of attractive ideas.

The St Clements Orchestra would seem to be a new guise for the small ensemble of 15-16 strings, plus wind instruments as required, favoured by Martindale Sidwell to accompany

his long-standing St Clement Dane Choral, from the Strand church where he has been director of music for over 25 years. The full forces were engaged in a Vivaldi setting of the Gloria that was distinguished by lithe string playing, especially in the faster sections.

Diana Cummings and Desmond Heath as principal first and second violins were joyously matched in their florid solo embellishment of the chorale melody in Bach's jubilant Cantata No 51, *Janchet*.

Mr Sidwell favoured straightforward readings, sparing of ornament, enabling Mark Wildman's burnished bass to speak eloquently for the certain faith of the "Purification" Cantata, No 82, *Ich habe genoss*. Here, as also in Vivaldi, the oboe playing Tessa Miller was of a jewelled artistry; and the orchestra gave down "Mister Man", self-parody registration and dancing spirit of John Scott's solo playing in Handel's B flat Organ Concerto, Op 7 No 1.

Noël Goodwin

Pop music

Culture Club

Wembley Arena

Of all the supergroups currently vying for public attention Culture Club and their lead singer Boy George seem the most vulnerable. The title of their recent album, *Waking Up With the House on Fire*, tempts fate, as does their American single "Mistake Number Three"; their last singles, "The War Song" and "The Medal Song", were so appalling they could only be defined as mistakes numbers one and two.

Meanwhile, in certain quarters, there are allegations that Culture Club's once impressive popularity is on the wane; that there is a backlash against their flamboyant leader manifest in a shyness at box-office and record counter. Judging by Culture Club's early dates at Wembley there is some substance to these murmurs even if rumours of the killing of Boy George have been greatly exaggerated.

Surprisingly, the Boy did spend an inordinate amount of time justifying in presence, his comments between songs, usually so sharp, sounded like

the utterances of someone in need of reassurance.

Much of George's patter, and his constant nervous cackling between numbers, was reminiscent of someone re-writing his own history. He referred to himself as "one of the last of a dying breed: pure beef", before launching into his macho put-down "Mister Man", self-parodyingly called himself "an ace favourite" and asked the audience whether he was wearing too much make-up. Of course he was. Some of this was standard George campiness but the overhead video screen accentuated his worry.

The biggest irony of all was that Culture Club were rather good. True, they miss the larger-than-life visual and vocal contribution of the departed singer Helen Terry, and their new material is less persuasive than the older hits, but George's performance is still liable to put a smile on the face.

Culture Club will eventually stand or fall on the quality of their leader's songs, but George has too much personality and sense of survival to let a little thing like a temporary artistic mental block cramp his style.

Max Bell

Kissing God

Hampstead

Like *Crystal Clear*, Phil Young's new company-devised piece opens with the delicate first moves in what proves to be a horrendous love affair.

Amy, lately installed in a bed-sit which she has crammed with her teddy-bears and Tokyo souvenirs, receives a shy visit from her Mark, an obliging landlord who instantly agrees to save down the table-legs to the Japanese height to accommodate her jigsaws, and then sits entranced at the story of her blighted ballet career.

By scene two, he has escorted her to Covent Garden and back home for a bottle of champagne, at which point it emerges that her only interest in him is as a heroin addict from whom she wants her first fix.

Amy's friend Babbli also has a make-a-companion. Harry, whom she takes back to the room in hopes of more than companionship. But, apart from giggling over their joint experiences as volunteer nursery workers, Harry is as impenetrably secretive as a clam, until Amy crashes in, bleeding from a bungled self-injection; whereupon Harry too emerges as a

long-term addict now going back on the needle.

Social preliminaries out of the way, the three junkies settle in for an unobstructed slide down to degradation and death.

Kissing God is a serious examination of a desperately urgent social malady. But so were the Victorian temperance dramas with which, it has to be said, this play has things in common: such as the coincidental reunion of Mark and Harry (who first got him hooked); and the parlour song-book appeals on behalf of Amy's unborn child.

As a dramatic subject, drug-addiction has the added disadvantage of eroding character. Here are three people of variously interesting temperament, all gradually levelled to the condition where everything they say or do is focused on the banal imperative of getting the next fix.

Babbli, the working-class outsider, pathetically such people - Mark a former doctor, Harry a university graduate - should need the stuff. The play answers that question for Amy, who takes to Cloud Nine when her balletic dream collapses. But all the men have to say in explanation is that heroin is their refuge from fear.

Neither in its penetration into the subject nor in emotional power does this piece sustain the quality of *Crystal Clear*. It is, however, an expert example of the collective method, containing some ingenious long-winded plotting, beautifully worked out routines and deeply committed performances. The plot succeeds in creating surprises from harrowingly predictable material. It is clear, for instance, that somebody is going to die; but the timing and the identity of the victim come as a brutal shock. So does the abrupt transformation of Amy's foot from a womb-like retreat full of pretty things to a bare, squallid den.

Kate Lock's Amy, wittily secretive from the start and still pinning out for her admirers, undergoes an appallingly well-imagined alteration into unfeeling obsession, nails tearing into pockets for money, or staging ladylike comebacks to a ghastly pretence of normal behaviour. David Bamber (Mark) equals her in his alteration from extreme gentleness to brutal, lying self-pity, finally stealing the door of the room as the last thing he has to sell. The other parts are less sharp, but finely played by Feroza Syal and Anton Lesser.

Dance

and a maximum of attractive, expressive dancing. Oberon is one of his best parts for a romantic hero, partly because there is a sharp edge to the character, which Roland Price brought out well on Tuesday night investing the long, glittering solos with a smooth flow and bright finish.

Bottom is no less outstanding a role, and also had a notable performance from David Bintley. He gives full relish to the parody solo that begins his transfiguration, glows with unexpected pleasure on meeting Titania, and puts his own gloss on the end of his adventure, accepting normality with almost as much pleasure as he does his memories.

Among the other solo roles, the quiet courtesy of Alain Dubreuil's Lysander gave most pleasure, but these are all good parts that continue to make their effect even on repeated viewing, and a familiar cast performed them with practised ease.

This is also one of the few recent ballets that give much scope to the corps de ballet. The women have two long and complex entries as followers of Titania, and the group of men who play the rustics have a

dance of such comic invention and liveliness that its comparative brevity is hardly noticed.

While *The Dream* has gone from strength to strength, Kenneth MacMillan's *Concerto* has come to look a little threadbare. That is partly because there is not much in the way of alternative choices if you want a plotless ballet by this choreographer, and over-exposure has worn its virtues thin while exposing its weaknesses, chief among which is the dreary writing for the corps.

It also has to be said that the work is not so well danced nowadays as used to be the case. Among the five principals at this opening performance, only Sherilyn Kennedy, leading the third movement, really made her solos gleam through the finessing of her steps and her timing.

Nicola Katrak and David Yow danced gaily but too approximately in the first movement; Clare French and Carl Myers gave charm but no great depth to the second. The supporting couples on the whole outshone the principals.

Prokofiev's brief *Vocalise* and MacMillan's *Elite Syncopations* completed the bill.

John Percival

Royal Ballet

Sadler's Wells

How mistaken one can be. When Frederick Ashton made his ballet *The Dream* for the Shakespeare bicentenary, 20 years ago, it was recognized as a workmanlike and entertaining piece but generally thought too long and too old-fashioned to endure. Well, the other ballet created that night has disappeared, but *The Dream* has become a staple in the repertory of both Royal Ballet companies, besides being taken up by companies abroad.

It was the centrepiece of Tuesday night's programme at Sadler's Wells, opening the resident company's short Christmas and New Year season. There were no childish voices to sing Titania to sleep (economy, or the consequence of school holidays?), but Bramwell Tovey conducted a decent account of the score which John Lanchbery arranged from Mendelssohn's incidental music.

The reason the ballet has worn so well is that Ashton told the story clearly with a minimum of simple, direct mime that anyone can understand,

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MEANWHILE, BACK HOME

During the meditative hours of flight between Hong Kong and Camp David Mrs Thatcher may find it less than easy to infuse her thoughts with seasonal charity when they turn to what has been happening back home in Parliament. Even before she left London, the victorious Tory backbench revolt on student grants had been followed by a further triumph of disobedience. A Conservative attempt to modify the GLC Abolition Bill by an amendment to replace the condemned body with a directly elected authority of a different sort was only defeated by a niggardly Government majority of just 23. If the Lords now dig their heels in, can the Government avoid some sort of retreat?

Then there is the rising tide of Conservative insistence that the Government should promote employment by spending on investment programmes. Mrs Thatcher assured the Conservative backbench 1922 Committee before she set off round the world that raising tax thresholds was the better way, which is substantially correct. But there was not the slightest evidence that the increasing number of Tory backbenchers who differ from her on the point have had their minds changed by the prospect of Mr Lawson's budget largesse for low earners.

Now in her airborne absence rebellion has erupted again. In standing committee a group of Tories has joined with Labour to block the Civil Aviation Bill because of fears that the power it gives for Ministers to set a rigid limit to the number of flights from Heathrow preempts the decision whether Stansted is to become London's third airport. Even more dramatically, the great weight of vocal Tory opinion has declared itself op-

posed to Mr Patrick Jenkin's announcement of a freeze on £1 billion of local assets (from council house sales) which the dissidents would like spent on capital investment.

Mrs Thatcher must be echoing the irritated thoughts of countless chief executives through the ages who have been frustrated by Parliament's tendency to get above itself and upset the tidy schemes devised by ministers and their officials. James I made some acid comments with parts of which Mrs Thatcher may be tempted to sympathize. "The House of Commons is a body without a head," he told the Spanish Ambassador. "The members give their opinion in a disorderly manner. At their meetings nothing is heard but cries, shouts and confusion. I am surprised that my ancestors should ever have permitted such an institution to come into existence. I am a stranger and found it when I arrived so that I am obliged to put up with what I cannot get rid of."

Mrs Thatcher would hardly echo the last sentence. She is not a stranger and as every other successful politician must she rose by parliament, a fact which also disposes of any idea that today's parliament is a body without a head. Modern elections and parties provide it with a tidy majority with the chief executive at its apex and James I would probably see some advantages in being a Prime Minister with a parliamentary majority as well as Divine Right to back him.

That system has, however, also produced its critics. With Governments backed by an impenetrable body of members who will not risk letting the Opposition take their place, the House of Commons is criticized

for being too powerless to alter Government's decisions. Its majority may exercise a little marginal influence and the Government, anticipating its backbenchers' reactions, may offer a softening minor concession of two. But can Government backbenchers do more, and if they cannot do more what does parliamentary influence really amount to when the open jousting between Government and Opposition is little more than political point-scoring?

The last few weeks should have reassured the sceptics about the efficacy of parliamentary representation. Government-supporting MPs have increasingly chosen to act as representatives (but not mandated delegates) of their constituents' best interests as they themselves judge it. They are not willing to act as lobby-fodder and are increasingly inclined to call the bluff of "confidence" which the Government likes to attach to its proposals. They have identified issues where important sections of the public feel strongly and they are the only "opposition" that can get things done.

The effective control of the executive rests with the Government's own majority, backed by the Lords who are more willing to dig their heels in when faced with a Tory government which will not abolish them than with a Labour government which will. The backbenchers are sometimes right and sometimes wrong, but all politics are a dialogue in which the contestants are more influenced by their opponents than they care to admit. In a parliamentary democracy, as Mrs Thatcher must know, her little local difficulties are as healthy as they are inconvenient to her.

VOTE FOR MUHAMMAD, AND THE GENERAL

While international attention has been focused on the general elections to be held in India next week, across the border in Pakistan the country's military dictator, General Zia ul-Haq, yesterday held his own quiet election. It took the form of a "national referendum" and it was both a blatant fraud and a brilliant stroke of genius.

On the surface, yesterday's referendum purportedly sought the people's approval of General Zia's policy of Islamization. The result will not formally be announced until Saturday, but it is a foregone conclusion. Given that the country was created out of India in 1947 specifically as a Muslim state, and that 95 per cent of the population is of that faith, it is inconceivable that even a sizeable minority, let alone an actual majority, would dissent. And therein lies the General's strategy.

Behind the front of Islam the General is in fact sneaking himself past the population. Consequently upon the referendum results, but cleverly not mentioned on the actual ballot paper, is the real question of General Zia's own survival. In his speech earlier this month

when he announced the surprise referendum, the General added that he would interpret a "yes" vote as an affirmation of support for himself, and thus consider himself "elected" for the next five years.

Had General Zia frankly and courageously put himself to the test, without the cover of "religion", he would in all probability, have lost. That no doubt was why he did not. Further, not only does this exercise almost guarantee the desired result, but in addition the opposition have been unable to do anything about it.

Now it seems that the only possible remaining opposition hope is that the turnout yesterday eventually proves to have been minimal. If so, General Zia will be forced to disguise it if only to maintain face. His problem will be that hundreds of junior officials in his seven-year-old military regime will be aware of the evidence he is hiding and thus wary of the regime they are supporting. Up till now, there is no reason to believe that there has been a low turnout or that the army is awaiting evidence to turn against the General.

To understand the dilemma

General Zia has placed the Opposition in, one needs to look at the carefully calculated manner in which he has sought to legitimize his dictatorship. From the outset of his rule he chose to link his regime with the revival of religion. He claims that Pakistan has its Islamic foundation and that he plans to recreate the state in line with Islamic principles. But what he has really done, through his policy of Islamization, is to try to establish a direct route of appeal to the Muslim population. The General knows that religion is a powerful force in Pakistan and that as the ruler who has given Islam its rightful place he could gain a lasting advantage. In March he plans to capitalize on it; he intends to hold what he calls Islamic elections for the National and Provincial Assemblies. Precisely what shape these will take is still uncertain but it is already clear that under the guise of Islam, General Zia has outlawed the political parties from contesting again. Dictatorship sustained by religious beliefs in this way is not healthy for democracy, and, in the long term, does the religion little good either.

SUCCOUR THE CHILDREN

Still they come, by thousands and tens of thousands, out of the parched former farmlands and across the mountains to settlements where relief services almost overwhelmed by the scale of the emergency can offer only fragmentary help. As our own reports from Sudan confirm, the famine which for the sake of a name we label Ethiopian is a crisis which affects Ethiopia's neighbours and in varying degree a score or more countries on the fringes of the Sahara. No aid, however quick or efficient, can at this stage do more than mitigate a catastrophe which has already happened; and the evidence is all too strong that the aid is not always either quick, efficient, or honestly administered.

There is a temptation in these circumstances to retreat into a numb helplessness or cynical wrangles about who shares how much of the blame. The scale of the response in Britain and other wealthier countries shows that defeatism has not yet gained much hold - though paradoxically this may be partly because of the suffering only came out a few weeks ago to give it substance in the public imagination. But in much of Africa, this is the second or third season in which the rains have failed. A third of the continent is more or less affected by drought, and the prospect is for many more seasons of appeals for help, some as desperate as the present one or even more so. A continuous clamour of appeal is at risk eventually of inducing numbness, bolstered by a complacent recollection that Malthus predicted that something of this

kind would be inevitable in the end.

A welcome reinforcement to optimism was given yesterday by the latest annual report of UNICEF, the United Nations children's fund. In a year when nearly five million children have died of malnutrition and disease in Africa alone, it still finds reason for hope. Rejecting the high-technology, high-prestige approach which gave such satisfaction both to donor and recipient governments in the past, while often inaccessible to most of those in need, it emphasizes the possibilities - and the achievements - of simple and cheap measures in which parents and local communities can themselves take the main role. This change in attitudes is one of the most valuable developments of recent years: in Tanzania, for instance, where one central hospital absorbed no less than 14 per cent of the nation's entire drugs budget, the World Health Organisation and Danish agencies recently proposed a new generic drugs programme which has made drugs more widely available while halving drug import costs.

In a real famine, where even the fertile soil may have been carried away by wind or flood, the opportunities for self-help are relatively slight. But most of the deaths, and most of the malnutrition (which can have life-long stunting effects) occur in conditions of privation short of famine, where hardship and disease gradually debilitate the body to the point of exhaustion. Simple provision of water with salts and sugar, says Unicef, can

strengthen resistance dramatically: it claims that half-a-million children's lives have been saved this year by this means alone. Other basic measures of immunization and health education have been shown to have almost as great an effect.

But what profit, means the ghost of Malthus, in saving children's lives if the land cannot support them, let alone their progeny? It is true that the Ethiopian tragedy is in part a result of rising population (as the Mengistu government reported in the 1970s). Africa as a whole, the poorest continent, is the only one which has not yet experienced a slowing-down in its rate of population growth. The tragedy is a cycle: there many children die, parents have many children; where they survive, smaller families come into favour. The Unicef report cites cases where family planning campaigns aroused little interest until health programmes of the type described were introduced and seen to bear fruits: then family sizes began to fall markedly.

Simple measures of this kind gain trust and are promulgated without need for the hard sell, for they arouse no strong cultural resistance. Effective help is not, and should not be a matter of forcing alien practices on reluctant populations. With tact and attention to real needs rather than to blind adherence to ideologies, the report shows that there is ample and growing scope for helping people in the poorer parts of the world to help themselves.

Hope for healthy Christmastide

From Dr A.A. McLeod

Sir, The latest round of cuts, forced on us by under-funding of the health service, has just closed one of our wards where we care for and investigate cardiac patients. The closure is "for Christmas", but the real reason is under-funding - under-funding of this hospital, this health district, this health region, and this nation in general.

It is not putting it too strongly to say that patients may die as a result of our being unable to admit them for diagnostic tests that might indicate the need for urgent cardiac surgery. I believe that illness takes no account of public holidays and is unconcerned with time of day. Over the years we have come to put up with impaired health services at such times, but an 11-day run-up to the Nativity celebration is scarcely bearable.

Our unit clinician has enforced these closures, but it is not he who is to blame; nor the district health authority officers who instructed him; nor yet the regional health authority who budget us so inadequately; ultimately it is the Minister of Health and beyond him the Prime Minister and her Government who stand responsible.

This letter should not be interpreted, as I know it may be by some, as a special plea for cardiac patients. All my consultant colleagues are facing the same difficulties, and their patients are suffering too. We are told that the health service costs about £15,000 million a year to run: at £300 a year per head that seems like cheap health insurance to me.

Sir, I hope you will publish this letter because those who work in the health service generally carry on despite the increasing weight of minor adversities - I did not write to you when I had to perform a peaker operation wearing a nurse's operating theatre dress instead of a surgical suit because of our occasionally inadequate sterile supplies - but the last straw seems to have fallen today.

May I wish all your readers the good fortune not to be ill this Christmas. Though some of my patients will eat well-cooked turkey on the 25th, I am afraid they are getting a raw deal today.

Yours etc,

ANDREW McLEOD (Consultant Cardiologist, King's College and Dulwich Hospitals), Camberwell Health Authority, King's College Hospital, Denmark Hill, SE5, December 14.

Stansted report

From Mr S.H. Cooke

Sir, Yesterday I tried to obtain a copy of the inspector's report on 'Stansted airport'. I was told that it was not available at the Stationery Office. The man behind the counter did not know why. I sent an assistant to the Department of the Environment in Marsham Street but they had no copies. A further journey to the Department of the Environment offices in Kensington High Street revealed it was out of print.

I asked for assistance by telephone and was informed that the first printing had been such a small run that HMSO did not want to handle it. I was told that the next printing would be at some unspecified date, that the price was unknown but that they would telephone me.

As I live in an area whose peace and tranquillity may be shattered not necessarily by aircraft noise but by the hundreds of thousands of people wanting to live as near to their work as possible, I began to wonder whether the powers that be have already decided to go ahead with Stansted and to save money by not printing an adequate number of copies of the report. Is the promised debate in Parliament to be a mere charade?

Yours truly,

S.H. COOKE, 10 Lincoln's Inn Fields, WC2, December 14.

From Lady Burton of Coventry

Sir, After studying your leading article, "Stansted can wait" (December 11), and the excellent points put forward I wondered if I might isolate one in the hope that this particular assumption might be worth further consideration. This was "The lost second runway at Gatwick must be counted as a mistake now past retrieving."

I noted with approval the word "mistake". But surely we cannot live for ever with mistakes when these can be rectified. Too many planners' mistakes are with us today. There must be every reason for changing them when circumstances are altered.

In the House on May 23 last I was told in answer to a Question that "the present Government were not consulted about the agreement and are not parties to it. That being the case the Government cannot be bound by its terms." The agreement, of course, was that entered into by the British Airports Authority with the West Sussex County Council.

Sir, in conclusion, might I put forward an assumption of my own. If the air traffic movements suggested after Terminal 4 comes into operation at Heathrow were increased to what is regarded as the more realistic figure of 330,000 (instead of 275,000) and we had a second runway at Gatwick there would be no necessity for any extensive development of Stansted airport.

Yours faithfully,

BURTON OF COVENTRY, House of Lords, December 12.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Great past, but a doubtful future

From Mr Peter Fleetwood-Hesketh

Sir, Kedleston (report, December 13) seems to provide as good an example as any of the destructive effects of capital transfer tax.

Such places are often referred to as part of the national heritage. True, the nation is fortunate to have within its shores such beautiful objects of admiration and would be the poorer without them. But the nation had no part whatever in their creation and subsequent maintenance.

But the nation had no part whatever in their creation and subsequent maintenance.

Kedleston, with its park, would never have existed had it not been for the taste and enterprise of the Curzon family who commissioned it in the first place and maintained it for over two centuries. Were it not for CTT they could no doubt continue to do so.

Let us consider the effect were CTT to be abolished in respect of private houses now. I imagine the percentage of the national revenue derived from this source to be very small and that it could without difficulty be made up by more

equitable means. The natural heirs of the families who created such places as Kedleston would thus be enabled to continue to maintain the houses and parks and to keep intact their carefully gathered contents.

These places were built, not only to be lived in, but to be seen and give pleasure to the beholder. Most owners have in the past been generous in admitting the public to their private houses, upon request or in aid of charity, though under no obligation to do so. And now, when Government help is obtained, this is sometimes conditional on the public being admitted.

It seems to me that in the case of private houses CTT serves no purpose, save to destroy a precious legacy from the past, and one may therefore be forgiven for sensing here an element of vindictiveness, since there seems to be no other explanation.

Yours faithfully, PETER FLEETWOOD-HESKETH, As from: 57 Great Ormond Street, WC1, December 16.

Conditional aid

From Mr Hugh P. Elliott

Sir, The latest news of the famine in Africa prompts another look at your editorial of November 27.

By all means let us have more and better evaluation of the cost-effectiveness of all overseas aid. But the ODA (Overseas Development Administration) have done much more of this in recent years than you give them credit for; and the chief remaining area where they might be questioned lies in the big trade schemes, where aid is tied to British manufactures. These are not cut because the result would be job losses in Britain.

The point is that after the recent cuts which you editorially appear to justify, there is simply not enough money left to get the most cost-effective schemes going. These include, first, disaster relief, which in large areas of Africa is the precondition of all other forms of aid.

There are certain countries where the regime would not be willing to accept the strict conditions necessary. But it is not realised that in many lands in the drought areas the situation is now so desperate that the rulers are ready to accept aid with whatever supervision and controls we insist on.

In the particular emergency of the Ethiopia/Sudan crisis, the case is surely overwhelming for an inter-

national disaster relief force (as urged by Lord Cameron and Hugh Hanning, November 11).

Naturally the Dergue is not going to feed the people of the rebel-held areas in Eritrea and Tigray. Hence the refugees. But the hungry on both sides deserve equal help.

But, secondly, for the prevention of future disasters, the most cost-effective aid is all the long-term task of agricultural development: the provision of seeds, wells, dams and the training of field staff (letters of November 17 et al). Food production has become the top priority.

In my recent travels in Africa, I have been struck by the eagerness almost everywhere to welcome British aid.

This is a time of opportunity for Britain. If our leaders would dare to appeal not to self-interest, but would boldly ask the income tax-paying British public to make a small sacrifice in order to restore cuts and maintain adequate aid for disaster relief and agricultural development the response from most would be surprisingly generous.

Yours sincerely, HUGH P. ELLIOTT, 14 Eldon Avenue, Shirley, Croydon, Surrey, December 18.

Student grants

From Dr J. B. Davies

Sir, I share Lord Flowers's view (December 11) that the storm over student grants drew out the worst in everyone; it is now time for collection of facts and disappearance of rhetoric.

The attention of all those interested in higher education should be directed towards a recent study which showed that the average debt incurred up to qualification by an American medical student was \$22,900 (Moss, *New England Journal of Medicine*, November 22, vol 311, p 1375).

If the pattern of higher education in Great Britain should become like that in America then it would become necessary to review the ability of British students to repay loans in the face of their higher cost of living, higher taxation and lower salaries; for medical students con-

sideration would need to be given to the difficulty in obtaining National Health Service employment beyond the registrar/senior registrar grade!

Perhaps the affray over student grants will alert the Government to a potential further dilemma in higher educational policy if there is truth in the rumour that the Chancellor of the Exchequer is considering a levy of value-added tax upon books and journals.

If value-added tax should be imposed on books and journals, then the already heavy financial burden upon individual students, members of the professions, learned societies and libraries would be made even heavier.

I. BLEDDYN DAVIES, Charterhouse Clinical Research Unit Limited, Boundary House, 91-93 Charterhouse Street, EC1, December 12.

US views on Cyprus

From Mr Richard N. Haass

Sir, We were surprised at the pessimistic tone of your paper's November 27 leader, entitled "More discreet proximity on Cyprus". But we were shocked that a publication as reputable as *The Times* would repeat and seem to endorse the totally false charge that United States Government funds were being used to help build an airfield in northern Cyprus.

This allegation is simply not true. The United States is not building an airfield or anything else at Lefkoniko in northern Cyprus. The United States is not financing the Lefkoniko airport, either directly or indirectly. The United States military has no plans for, nor has it given any consideration to, the possible use of a facility at Lefkoniko or anywhere else in northern Cyprus.

In your general assessment of Cyprus diplomacy, the editorial seemed too ready to accept that current efforts must fail. We believe the Cyprus problem can be solved and that the efforts of the last several months by the UN Secretary-General have been energetic and well conceived.

Indeed, we trust that you will reassess the prospects for Cyprus given the announcement on December 12 that the Secretary-General has succeeded in arranging a summit meeting for January 17 between President Kyprianou and Mr Rauf Denkash. While much remains to be done, we welcome this important step and pledge our continuing full support to the Secretary-General's efforts to promote a fair and final settlement to the Cyprus question.

The roots of the Cyprus conflict are complex and deeply emotive. Therefore, we regret that you chose to give credence to the false report of alleged US plans for the Lefkoniko airport. Such rumors can only divide further the people of Cyprus and hinder efforts at reconciliation on the island.

We hope that in printing this response your paper will help to calm groundless fears and thus help make possible a successful summit meeting on January 17.

Yours faithfully, RICHARD N. HAASS, (Special Cyprus Coordinator), United States Department of State, Washington, DC, 20520, December 17.

Dropping the pilots

From Commander J. M. Cooley, RNR

Sir, Your article by Stephen Aris (December 7) concerning pilotage comments justly on the need for change and rationalisation, yet in itself irrationally compares like with unlike and is highly selective in its examples.

How can Peterhead, a three-mile pilotage with small or modest ships, be fairly compared with Southampton, some 25 miles, where the largest ships are handled?

Most pilots are indeed self-employed, which enables them to give advice without being under pressure from either port authorities or owners cutting their costs and safety margins to the bone. Yet even whilst bound by by-law and working rule more than many an employee, the pilots are still like all self-employed in that a decline in a port's trade may reduce their income or remove it altogether, as has happened at Preston and Manchester. Even a dock strike can reduce one to labouring on a farm to supplement income.

With regard to change, my station has reduced its numbers by two thirds over the last 10 years and would consider itself lucky to reach three-quarters of the agreed earnings of that of a third officer on a cross-Channel ferry.

The reaction of the General Council of British Shipping is to tear up the agreement on earnings that has been in force for 27 years in the hope of paring their costs still further. This follows the national agreement on earnings, which was never implemented; apparently another legally unenforceable agreement.

Perhaps one could question the necessity for pilots, but increasing interference or disregard for pilots' advice has cost millions of pounds in some accidents even without mentioning potential disasters, such as the HMS Jupiter court martial exemplified.

If it is high time that the pilotage profession is reorganised. It is also high time that a dedicated and highly skilled body of men, whose high death rate indicates the stress involved, are fairly treated.

Yours faithfully, J. M. COOLEY, 23 Ridgeway Avenue, Gravesend, Kent, December 9.

Doubts about an 80mph limit

From the Reverend Michael Smith

Sir, I find it incredible that responsible associations should want to promote the idea of an 80mph speed limit on our motorways (*The Times*, December 15).

The argument seems to be that the law should reflect reality and that the present limit is very widely ignored. Whether this is right or not depends on which area of reality one considers.

One area worth considering is that there are three sorts of drivers - those who keep within the law, those who will drive at 100mph no matter what the law says; and those who feel that if they go just a little beyond the bounds of the law, then that is not at all serious.

This latter group currently see nothing wrong with going 100mph above the current speed limit and drive at 80mph. A change in the law would almost certainly see many of them doing just the same with the new speed limit and driving at 90mph.

Any regular user of motorways can relate how all sorts of vehicles drive far too close to the car in front. The British motorway driver is notorious for this. The proposed change, while sensible considered out of context, is irresponsible and dangerous against the appalling failure to maintain correct driving discipline on our motorways at present.

And I suppose, if it goes through Parliament, there will be people saying in not so many years' time that, since most people ignore the 80mph limit, it should be raised to 90mph. Where will it all end? Probably in the local hospital casualty department.

Yours faithfully, MICHAEL SMITH, 30 Grove Vale, East Dulwich, SE22.

Flying wheels

From Professor D. A. Bell

Sir, I cannot agree with the Government that the loss of wheels from commercial vehicles is unimportant (report, December 13, p3).

Some years ago when driving down the M6 I noticed out of my window what appeared like a child's hoop hanging motionless over the central reservation. Fortunately I remembered the navigator's rule that "if the angle stays constant there will be a collision", so I braked and the cast steel locking rim from a lorry wheel landed on my front bumper.

Had it come through the window, which it was originally approaching, the result would have been much the same as that of a lump of concrete dropped from a bridge through the windscreen. We need to know what happens to wheels that come off commercial vehicles before we can dismiss the occurrence as unimportant.

Yours faithfully, D. A. BELL, 87 East End, Wokingham, North Humberstone, December 13.

Christmas spirit?

From Mr Ian Smart

Sir, In all compassion, it is hard to resist the pleas for Band Aid's "disc for Ethiopia" to be free of VAT. In all reason, it is hard to contradict the Prime Minister's judgement that an exemption from the law in this single case would be unfair. Ostensibly, the circle is not for squaring.

In reality, a simple solution is available. VAT must be paid, handed over to the Customs and Excise and retained. But let the Government, as a separate operation, buy at the commercial price (including VAT) additional copies of the record equivalent to 15 per cent of the number sold otherwise. Without making any VAT exception, the overall financial effect would then be exactly neutral.

The Exchequer would have the same revenue as if the disc had never been recorded. The record company would have the same income to devote to Ethiopia as if the Government had never intervened on either side of the account. As to the additional discs, they might appropriately be given to the British Council for free distribution overseas.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully, IAN SMART, 3 Grosvenor Avenue, Richmond, Surrey, December 15.

Advertising on BBC

From Mr Eric W. Lowden

Sir, The BBC already devotes many minutes every week to advertisements for its own programmes and publications. I see no objection to replacing these puffs with revenue earning material.

Yours faithfully, ERIC LOWDEN, 42 Burke's Road, Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire, December 14.

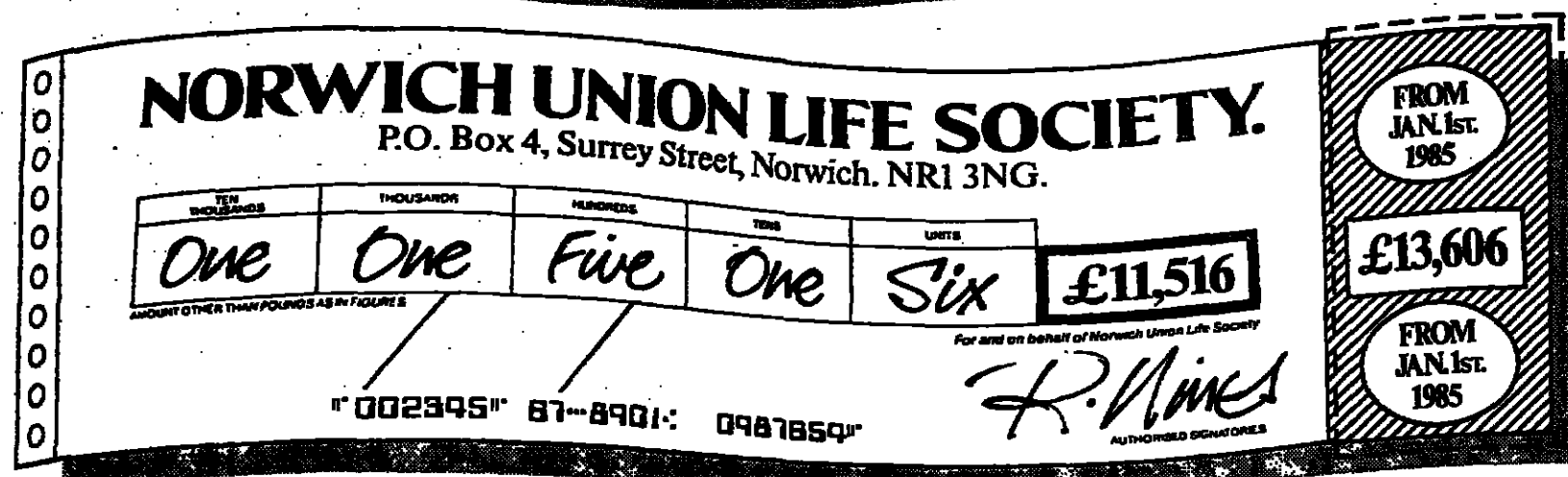
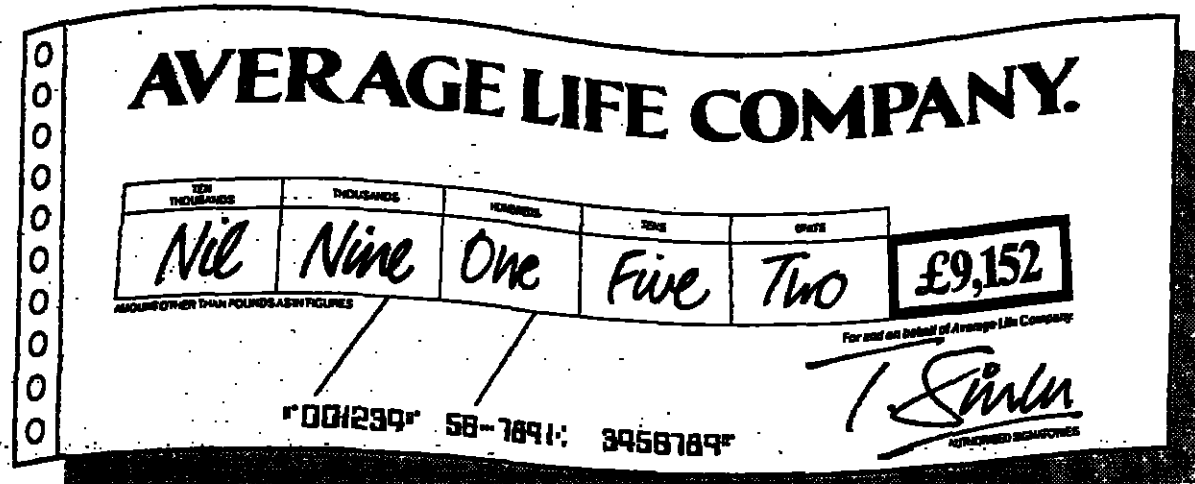
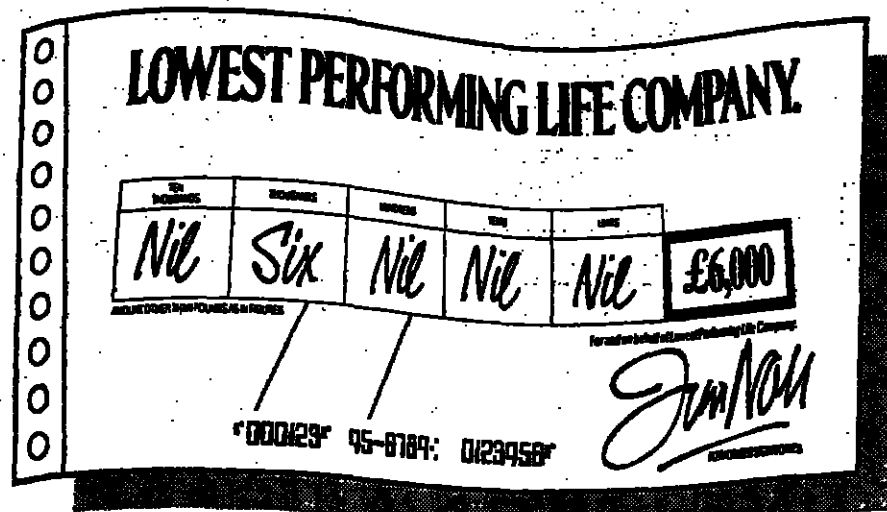
Dressing down

From the Reverend David Reindorp

Sir, On the day when we remember Samuel Johnson and his individual sense of dress, Sir Roy Strong (book review, December 13) does less than justice to the clergy. Shabby-genteel we may be, unkempt, uncombed and at times patched and ragged, holy in the sense that this morning I was with a fellow clergyman who had holes in his shoes; but dowdy

Yours faithfully, DAVID REINDORP, 19 Hurndell Road, Cambridge, December 13.

Which Insurance Company should I choose?



Why choose the average, when Norwich Union pays out so much more?

The difference in payouts from various Insurance Companies is enormous. A survey in May* showed that a man of 29 who paid £10 per month to a with-profit endowment insurance for 25 years (£3,000) would have received from the lowest performing company a payout of £6,000; from an average company £9,152 and from Norwich Union £11,516. But on 1 January 1985 Norwich Union will pay out £13,606. A staggering difference from other companies.

For shorter terms, we are currently the market leader. Now payouts are being increased still further. By a huge 9%. If a man of 29 had been investing for 10 years, on 1 January 1985 his total premiums of £1,200 would yield £2,563.

FOR PENSIONS TOO

Similar differences apply to with-profit pension policies*. A self-employed man retiring at

age 65 who has paid 16 premiums of £500 per annum (£8,000) would have available to buy a pension a payout of £13,815 from the lowest performing company, from an average company £21,055 but from Norwich Union £22,861. On 1 January 1985 Norwich Union's payout will be increased to £30,106. Another staggering difference from other companies.

Bigger payouts mean a bigger lump sum when the mortgage policy matures and pays off the mortgage. Or a bigger pension. Or even more money for that special dream you're saving for.

EXPERTS IN INVESTMENT

When you invest in a Norwich Union policy, you know that the rewards we offer are based on proven performance.

Norwich Union invests with flair and care in

the most dynamic sectors of the economy. In property and ordinary shares including oil. Our successful investment strategies enable us to provide bigger payouts through bigger bonuses.

And as your financial adviser will tell you, Norwich Union have delivered what they've promised. Often more. Over and over again.

THE POLICYHOLDER COMES FIRST

Norwich Union is a mutual company. This means it has no shareholders to take a slice of the profits. All our profits belong to you—the with-profit policyholders. You invest in us, and we work to build up the substantial benefits you deserve.

We believe there's only one answer to the question: "Which Insurance Company should I choose?" Talk to your financial adviser. We're sure he'll agree you're better off the Norwich Way.

YOU'RE BETTER OFF THE NORWICH WAY.



*Source: Money Management Magazine, May & September 1984

STOCK MARKET REPORT

Bowater jumps 19p as fund managers spot the bargain

By Pam Spooner

Bowater Industries, shorn of its American operations, is starting to attract increasing investment interest reflected yesterday in a sharp 19p rise to take the shares to a new peak for the year of 213p.

The company itself was saying it could not find any reason for the sudden upward movement although it has been seen as a bargain by many analysts and must clearly be satisfied that the message is getting through.

Mr Tony Pennie of James Capel has been saying the shares looked interesting since they stood at 150p in the summer and he now thinks the shares are starting to get the re-rating they deserve. "I think fund managers are realizing they still look cheap. The improvement in the economy is starting to get its way through to the packaging and paper sector where all the companies have been performing well."

So is there still plenty of steam left in the Bowater price? Our target price was 250p," Mr Pennie remarked. Estimates of Bowater's pretax profits in the current year - following the opening half's £12.4 million - are up to £39 million and £55 million the year after.

City opinions about BOC Group appear divided. A recent meeting with the company has shown two camps among the analysts. One reckons BOC is a dull prospect, but others, such as James Capel and Hoare Govett, are bullish about the shares. Yesterday BOC slipped 3p to 265p.

Meanwhile, Imperial Chemical Industries is showing strong quality, rising another 6p to 746p. The chemicals giant has shown little respect for the 700p barrier, jumping more than 60p in the past week.

Among brewers Matthew Brown provided excitement as the shares put on another 10p to 246p. That makes a two-day gain of 26p and does nothing to dispel market talk of a bid.

Scottish & Newcastle is tipped as the buyer, but its share price held fairly steady at 136½p, down just ½p on the day.

At Matthew Brown no one was willing to comment on the

situation, leaving City men confident the company will be the target for S & N expansion in the south. Metropolitan continued its share price gain ahead of today's figures with a 7p rise to 328p, and there was progress of a few pence for Boddingtons Breweries, Greenall Whitley, Greene King and Arthur Guinness.

C H Beazer fired another round in the battle for B&P Portland yesterday, sending out a circular to B&P shareholders asking: "Where are the facts?"

Coalite Group pushed ahead 3p yesterday to another peak of 226p. After recent meetings with the company, stockbrokers are feeling very bullish about the chemicals group. Quilter Goodson is among that number, concluding with the City view that Coalite can make £33 million or more for the current year, against £18.6 million last time.

There is still no estimate of profits for the past year, no indication of current trading and no updated asset valuation, Beazer says.

It wants to know particularly whether B&P intends to sell its minerals division - Beazer would retain the division - and why B&P is prepared to sell its controlling interest in Meditech Body Scanner.

B&P shares shrugged off the attack finishing 2p higher at 279p. Beazer also added on 2p to 362p. The B&P share and its offer values B&P shares at 236.8p.

Richard Clay, producers of the Mills & Boon books, got a 10p lift to 103p as speculators moved in on the shares. City chat suggested that Clay could be on the shopping list for buyers in the publishing sector, with asset values underpinning the price. In the last report and accounts net assets per share were priced at over 115p, on an historic cost basis.

Mollins, the cigarette paper and packaging engineers, was also on the move in response to bid hopes. The shares rose 2p to 136p, taking them ever closer to

their previous annual trading peak of 142p.

DBG also came back into the limelight, rising 5p to 152p. Market observers reckon a sizeable stake has been built up in the company, and would not be surprised to see a 5 per cent holding declared soon. But expectations of a full bid for the producers of Basildon Bond are still fading into the background.

Lex Service gained ground rapidly yesterday on news that Provident Mutual Life Assurance has taken its holding to just over 5 per cent of the shares. The Lex share price gained 10p to 290p, edging that stock further away from the bottom end of its trading range.

Elsewhere among the motor traders, British Car Auctions again made headway. The shares rose 5p to 94p, pulling out of the doldrums in which they have languished in recent months.

Jaguar hit a new price peak as the rising dollar gave investors enthusiasm for the car manufacturers. The shares rose 6p to 228p.

Even Ford and General Motors managed to pick up pennies and cents - in the brighter mood for car sales and particularly for dollar earnings.

But Lucas Industries is still suffering from bad news about the effect of strikes on the car's sales and current profitability. Shareholders heard the worst from Mr Godfrey Messervy, the chairman at the annual meeting.

Avon Rubber bounced 8p to a

new trading peak of 233p, but Automotive Products slipped back 1p to 64p.

Prices on the engineering pitches were firm, with Smith Industries still enjoying Tuesday's annual statement. The shares gained 7p to 694p.

Westland shares fell apart alongside the poor profits news, dropping 10p to 126p. The helicopter makers has had a tough time in the past year.

Simon Engineering followed with 1p, while Thomson, which already handles TSB's customer advertising and is preparing proposals for a press and television corporate campaign.

Mr Miles Colebrook, a director of J. Walter Thomson, said he envisaged a campaign similar to Telecom's "Power Behind the Button" advertising to increase public awareness of the bank and its ambitions.

Such a campaign will cost about £5 million according to reliable outside estimates. On top of that there will be advertising, marketing and promotion.

The amount Telecom spent on advertising and promotion for its flotation is estimated to have been about £17.5 million.

Mr Anthony Carlisle, a director of Dewe Rogerson, said that one problem the promotional and marketing campaign faced was the distinctive social profile of the TSB's six million customers at whom the offer of shares will be particularly directed.

The firm will be conducting market research into the attitude to the flotation of these customers, the majority of whom have not held shares before.

Mr Carlisle said: "It is far to say that we will be looking at socio-economic groups which are quite different from those who subscribed for British Telecom shares."

A great deal of promotional activity will be conducted through the TSB's huge branch network.

The TSB's financial advisers, Lazard Brothers may have to lead incentives into the offer for sale to ensure that small first time investors do not sell their shares for a quick profit the moment dealings begin on the Stock Exchange.

TSB to spend £8m on sell-off advertising

By Jeremy Warner

Up to £8 million is likely to be set aside by the Trustee Savings banks for spending on a British Telecom-style advertising and promotional campaign in the run up to the 1,624 branch network's £1 billion stock market flotation a year from now.

Dewe Rogerson, the public relations and advertising firm employed to handle the Telecom sale, is handling the flotation marketing, advertising and public relations for TSB.

The firm will act in tandem with J. Walter Thomson, which already handles TSB's customer advertising and is preparing proposals for a press and television corporate campaign.

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TEMPUS

Westland puts a brave face on poor sales

Westland's problems were summed up quite aptly in yesterday's preliminary statement which said almost apologetically: "Since the year end the company has received firm orders for two Lynx helicopters and a letter of intent for three Sea Kings."

As a company dominated by helicopter manufacturing Westland is simply not selling enough of them.

Yesterday's figures only amplified Westland's misery. Pretax profits of £26 million last year slumped to £16.8 million. They fell further after the inclusion of a £14 million exceptional item and the attributable profit was transformed into a loss once extraordinary items of £5.7 million had been accounted for.

The company was forced to make a £11 million transfer from its development reserve in order to cover the dividend.

The profit and loss account is not a pretty sight. With earnings per share of only 1.9p before extraordinary items, compared to 32.4p last year, it was therefore surprising that Westland's management was not more concerned.

Instead it put on a brave face and talked optimistically about future orders for helicopters. Sadly the company needs more than just talk to it needs to see hard cash in the bank. Borrowings rose from about £20 million to £60 million and the 50 per cent gearing now looks a little unwieldy.

Despite the progress which is being made in the group's other activities, the technologies group saw profits rise from £7.2 million to £10.2 million, it is the helicopters which hold the key to the company's future.

The civil market is taking much longer to mature than had been expected and while the Westland product is excellent the infrastructure which could provide a source of sales does not yet exist.

The need for civil helicopters is still restricted.

With military spending somewhat restricted at the moment there is no immediate prospect of any abatement of Westland's problems from that source. However, the Government is planning to announce a big order next year and Westland is in the running to win it.

The story of the shares therefore remains one of speculation about the prospects of future orders. They closed down 10p to 126p on the results but it is a share only for the brave at the moment.

Crystalate Holdings

The results of Crystalate Holdings are confused by the acquisition of Royal Worcester last December and the sale 10 months later of the china and ceramic interests.

Pretax profits in the year to September 30 were 76 per cent ahead at £5.66 million, but nearly £2 million was contributed by china. However, china also accounted for about £800,000 of additional interest costs, so the basic electronic business made £4.5 million pretax.

Welwyn Electronics, the part of Royal Worcester that Crystalate kept, pushed ahead strongly making £2 million in the 10 months, indicating a downturn in the existing Crystalate businesses to £2.5 million from £3.2 million. British Telecom's changed buying pattern was the culprit.

In a pre-privatisation squeeze it invoked the clause in its contract which allowed it to leave Crystalate with three months stock and a three-month delay in payment instead of instant take-up of orders. Besides, the Crystalate division making telephones, had its margins eroded and the effects are expected to continue into January to February.

Welwyn's profits and sales continue to improve, so there should still be a useful profits advance this year.

The shares fell 28p to 245p on disappointment that profits were not higher. The price-earnings ratio is 14 on an exceptionally low 30 per cent tax charge and is unlikely to come down much this year as the tax charge will go up to 40 per cent.

The results have doubly underlined the shrewdness of the Worcester acquisition - a fat profit on the china sales and Welwyn making the running on the electronics side. It is to be hoped the next acquisition comes soon, before a predator is attracted to a company capitalised at £55.5 million sitting on cash of more than £20 million.

Crystalate is looking for acquisitions in the electronics sector, but has nothing in its sights.

Bairstow Eves

Bairstow Eves, Britain's first publicly-quoted estate agent is going for a £6.8 million rights issue to continue its expansionist policy in the house selling business. It is a business which Bairstow is finding highly profitable.

The secret of the company's success lies in the volume of sales it achieves through its network of 100 offices. Part of the rights issue will be devoted to increasing the number of offices and widening its geographical spread in the direction of Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire. And more small firms of estate agents are likely to be swept into the Bairstow Eves network before long.

The other part of the company's attack on the residential market is in the fast-growing field of financial services. Bairstow bought Peter Rainbow and Associates, the financial services company for £1.89 million at the beginning of this year, but it is only now becoming aware of the huge potential that this acquisition can offer.

Bairstow expects this part of its business to contribute 20 per cent of profits in the coming year.

With house prices in the South east rising at about 10 to 15 per cent a year, Bairstow will want to increase the fee content of its business by that amount. The building societies are awash with money so the future for the residential estate agent is looking rosy. There will be opportunities for Bairstow to pick up some of the smaller agencies who could not obtain a flotation on their own account.

The company is forecasting that earnings per share for 1984 will see a 31 per cent rise over last year. And the board is recommending a final dividend of 0.805p per share. It expects the 1985 dividend to be 1.8p a share on the enlarged share capital after the rights issue on a one-for-three basis at 6p. If that comes about shareholders will see a 24 per cent increase over this year's dividend. The shares stood at 80p. They were first offered to the public at 46p in 1982.

Joint venture for Shipley and Imperial Life

By Richard Thomson

Brown Shipley, the merchant bank, and Imperial Life Assurance Company of Canada look set to launch a joint enterprise in the retail fund management sector. Brown Shipley is taking a 50 per cent stake in Laurentian Investment, Imperial Life's licensed dealer subsidiary. The company will be relaunched next April under

the same name, with £24 million under management.

Laurentian Investment will specialise in private client portfolio investment, accepting a minimum amount of £10,000. It will exist in parallel to Brown Shipley's unit trusts and pension funds, and to Imperial Life's managed funds.

Monthly Income Deposit Account

With effect from 17th January 1985 interest paid on Midland MIDAS Accounts will be reduced by ¼% to 8¾% per annum.



Midland Bank
Midland Bank plc, 27 Poultry, London EC2P 2BX

Opax offers £21m for Causton

By Alison Eadie

Norton Opax, the security and specialist printer which last week bought Fleet Holdings' 21.6 per cent stake in Sir Joseph Causton, has made a £21 million offer for the whole company.

Causton, the printer and publisher, put out a holding statement neither recommending nor rejecting the offer. The two companies have had talks, but Causton is still undecided because it did not want to be delayed by the Christmas holidays.

The share offer of four Norton shares for five Causton, values Causton at 124.8p at yesterday's closing prices of Causton up 15p at 121p and Norton unchanged at 156p. Norton bought the stake from Fleet for 95p a share. There is a cash alternative at 110.4p.

Norton Opax has grown fast through acquisitions in the last 18 months, since its abortive bid for John Waddington.

There is speculation that Mr Robert Maxwell's BPCC, fresh from its second defeat at Waddington's hands, may yet again jump in on an attempted Norton Opax takeover.

Zanussi approves Swedish takeover

From John Earl, Rome

Electrolux's takeover of Zanussi has been approved after long negotiations to general satisfaction by a special meeting of the Italian company's shareholders at its headquarters at Pordenone. And from the new year the problems for the new Swedish parent of what was once Europe's biggest manufacturer of white domestic appliances are likely to begin.

Had it not been for the rescue, Zanussi's chances of survival were doubtful. It lost £130 million (£58 million) in 1983, and the company admits continuing losses this year. The Zanussi family never applied for a stock exchange listing as a remedy for the under-capitalization that initially was the cause of its troubles, but relied on bank borrowing, as a result of which a \$560 million rescheduling package was only negotiated with difficulty with foreign and Italian creditor banks.

Electrolux says it is prepared to invest about £500 million (£225 million) in the next three years to get Zanussi on its feet. Signor Gian Maria Rossignoli, the 54-year-old chairman it put in, is starting work on a reorganization plan.

The Zanussi family, which founded a backyard group making wood-fired cookers in 1916, has been quietly removed, though Signor Gianfranco Zoppas, last chairman and husband of one of the Zanussi daughters, has been made chairman of a subsidiary, Zanussi Grandi Impianti.

The main shareholders now are Electrolux, with 49.04 per cent (and an option subsequently to increase this to 75 per cent, mainly through taking up a special convertible bond issue), the Friuli-Venezia Giulia region and Credipol, each 8.17 per cent. Others have smaller amounts, including the Zanussi family, left with 2.88 per cent.

A key attitude will be that of the Italian unions, which have greeted with mixed feelings the passage of control into foreign hands. They will be suspicious of any attempt under the reorganization plan to cut the workforce further - from the current 19,800 (32,000 some years ago).

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Authorized

250,000,000

Common Stock of U.S. \$2.00 par value

127,648,787

*Including 817,003 shares held in Treasury

The Signal Companies, Inc., headquartered in La Jolla, California, is a high-technology and engineering company operating worldwide. The Company serves the aerospace, electronics, energy and automotive industries with sophisticated technology and high-quality products. Signal's subsidiaries include The Garrett Corporation (aerospace), Kellogg Rust, Inc. (engineering and construction), Ampex Corporation (electronics), and UOP Group (process technologies and services).

Signal conducts extensive research and development to remain in the forefront of existing technology and to expand its technical knowledge into new areas of potential growth. In 1983, the Company had net revenues of approximately U.S. \$6,151,000,000, and it currently employs approximately 57,000 people.

The Council of The Stock Exchange has admitted to the Official List all the 127,648,787 shares of issued, and reserved for issue, Common Stock of The Signal Companies, Inc., including 817,003 shares held in Treasury.

Particulars relating to Signal are available in the Extel Statistical Service and copies of such particulars, together with copies of the latest audited financial statements, may be obtained during usual business hours on any weekday (Saturdays and public holidays excepted) up to and including 11th January, 1985 from:

Goldman Sachs International Corp.,
162 Queen Victoria Street,
London EC4V 4DB

Cazenove & Co.,
12 Tokenhouse Yard,
London EC2R 7AN

20th December, 1984

Crystalate Holdings plc

Design and manufacture of electronic components and equipment

- Earnings per share up 68%
- Sales now £51 million
- Pre-tax profit now £5.65 million

1984 RESULTS - Year to 30 September -

	1984	1983
Sales -	£000	£000
continuing activities	50,959	23,898
Operating profit -		
continuing activities	4,669	3,205
china and ceramics	2,489	-
Profit before taxation	5,657	3,211
Profit after taxation	3,934	1,653
Earnings per share (basic)	18.22p	10.94p
Proposed final dividend	2.38p	2.00p
Total dividend for year	3.85p	3.26p
Net assets per share	100.97p	39.45p

The Royal Worcester china and ceramics businesses acquired in December 1983 were sold in October 1984 for over £20 million.

All the remaining operating units show every prospect of continuing growth during 1985.

the limited

THE LIMITED, INC.

(Incorporated with limited liability in the State of Delaware in the United States of America)

Authorized
100,000,000
Shares of Common Stock
of US\$0.50 par value
64,008,240*

*includes 4,514,936 shares available for issue under employee benefit plans.

The Council of The Stock Exchange has admitted to the Official List all the issued Shares of Common Stock of The Limited, Inc.

The Limited, Inc. is a leading US retailer of women's apparel. In the year to 28th January, 1984 net sales of The Limited, Inc. were US\$1.1 billion and profits before tax were US\$135.0 million.

Particulars relating to The Limited, Inc. are available in the Extel Statistical Service and copies of such particulars may be obtained during usual business hours on any weekday (Saturdays excepted) up to and including 31st January, 1985 from:

Lazard Brothers & Co., Limited,
21 Moorfields,
London EC2P 2HT

Cazenove & Co.,
12 Tokenhouse Yard,
London EC2R 7AN

20th December, 1984

MOTOR SPORT

Le Mans classic could be at end of the road

Le Mans (Reuters) - The Le Mans 24-hour endurance race may have been staged for the last time. The organizers said yesterday that the race was facing serious financial problems because of lower attendance and heavy taxes, and, according to Jean-Marie Desautels, a race official, next year's race, scheduled for June 16-17, was in serious jeopardy.

The organizers had asked for financial backing from the local authorities, he said, because local companies, who pay taxes to the authorities, made about £40m each year from the event.

"If we do not get a positive response by December 31, the 53rd edition of the race will not be held", Desautels said. Attendance has dropped from a record 160,000 in 1967 to 70,000 last year.

Desautels said the Automobile Club de l'Ouest, the race organizers, were breaking even

with the event despite higher taxes. A government levy on each ticket, for example, had increased six-fold in the last 20 years.

But he said the organizers could not pay the £350,000 needed for maintenance and modernization of the circuit in order to keep up with safety rules.

The regional council said it had agreed to take over the maintenance costs, but the Le Mans city council, blaming the ACO for poor managing, said they wanted to control the organization of the race.

Desautels said ACO was ready to give the circuit's facilities to the local authorities, but would never relinquish their authority over the race.

With the Monaco Grand Prix and the Monte Carlo Rally still under a cloud, the loss of the Le Mans race would be a considerable blow to the world of motor sport.

MOTOR RACING

Ruling lifts Tyrrell team

Ken Tyrrell was yesterday celebrating the Paris court ruling which lifted the World Championship ban on his formula one team. Tyrrell told a press conference in London: "I feel a little cleaner."

A French civil court on Tuesday lifted the ban pending the outcome of a court case, expected to last several months, between Tyrrell and the International Motor Sport Federation (Fisa).

The ruling means that the Tyrrell team regain their 13 championship points from last season, a £293,000 grant is

saved, and sponsorship prospects are likely to improve.

Tyrrell said it was fortunate that the dispute had not affected the world championship. "All this is happening in the close season, the sport remains relatively free of problems. We are now part of the way to sorting it out."

Tyrrell said he did not know when the case would come to court, but he hoped things might be sorted out first. And he said wearily: "We don't really need all this law, it's not the way to go motor racing if it's."

Surveys sought in fight to save fish

By Conrad Voss Bark

The decline of wild fish stocks in Yorkshire and Lancashire rivers may well be due to a killer chemical used by dairy farmers to sterilize their equipment. This has come to light in a survey carried out by Lancaster University for the Lancashire and Wyre Fishery Association.

University scientists discovered lethal levels of chlorate in the June, most of it from dairy farms which use sodium hypochlorite, and not only dairy farm levels of one and two parts in a million were recorded in a beed sock as a drain.

The report says that this is well above lethal levels for fish. There are 180 registered dairy farms in the Lancashire and Wyre area and if only 10 per cent of the chemical they use every day reaches the river then it is likely that during times when the river is low the levels of chlorate may well be sufficiently high to damage sensitive fish, kill fish fry, and discourage salmon migrating up the river.

The fishery association is sending the report to government ministers and others, urging immediate action to reduce to government ministers

and others, urging immediate action to reduce or neutralize the amount of sodium hypochlorite in use and they will also be asking other fishing clubs to sponsor scientific surveys in other parts of the country.

Pollution by other chemicals - fertilizers, weed killers, and aerial pollution from acid rain - have caused the death of an untold number of fish and even mature fish in recent years.

No one has been able to establish how many fish have died, but it could run into many millions. Some of the chemical pollutants - nitrates from farm fertilizers, for example - are also harmful to humans and are particularly poisonous to young children, but the British government is still refusing to accept and EEC directive to reduce the level of nitrates in drinking water.

GOLF

Bigger prizes for Scots

Scotland's professional golfers will be playing for record prize money of some £300,000 in 1985 - an increase of £50,000.

The expansion of the "Tartan Tour" was outlined yesterday by Sandy Johnson, the Scottish PGA secretary, who also revealed that the future of the National championship is secure for another season.

Drybroughs the brewers have agreed to sponsor the Scottish PGA event for another year, which will increase the prize fund to a new

record of £32,000 at Dalnaboy, from August 22 to 25.

Sam Torrance, the former Scottish champion, who finished second in this year's European Order of Merit, has already indicated that he will play in his domestic championship instead of the German Open that week.

As well as that main event of the Scottish calendar, there will be another seven 72-hole events during the season - all worth at least £10,000.

FOR THE RECORD

GOLF

LA GUNTA PGA tour qualifying tournament: following US players qualifying for 1985 tour. 1. Tom Weiskopf, 2. Fred Couples, 3. Tom Weiskopf, 4. Tom Weiskopf, 5. Tom Weiskopf, 6. Tom Weiskopf, 7. Tom Weiskopf, 8. Tom Weiskopf, 9. Tom Weiskopf, 10. Tom Weiskopf, 11. Tom Weiskopf, 12. Tom Weiskopf, 13. Tom Weiskopf, 14. Tom Weiskopf, 15. Tom Weiskopf, 16. Tom Weiskopf, 17. Tom Weiskopf, 18. Tom Weiskopf, 19. Tom Weiskopf, 20. Tom Weiskopf, 21. Tom Weiskopf, 22. Tom Weiskopf, 23. Tom Weiskopf, 24. Tom Weiskopf, 25. Tom Weiskopf, 26. Tom Weiskopf, 27. Tom Weiskopf, 28. Tom Weiskopf, 29. Tom Weiskopf, 30. Tom Weiskopf, 31. Tom Weiskopf, 32. Tom Weiskopf, 33. Tom Weiskopf, 34. Tom Weiskopf, 35. Tom Weiskopf, 36. Tom Weiskopf, 37. Tom Weiskopf, 38. Tom Weiskopf, 39. Tom Weiskopf, 40. Tom Weiskopf, 41. Tom Weiskopf, 42. Tom Weiskopf, 43. Tom Weiskopf, 44. Tom Weiskopf, 45. Tom Weiskopf, 46. Tom Weiskopf, 47. Tom Weiskopf, 48. Tom Weiskopf, 49. Tom Weiskopf, 50. Tom Weiskopf, 51. 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RUGBY UNION

England want to put game back on its feet with radical law changes

By Tim Glover

England are proposing to make radical changes in laws which could transform the game. The Rugby Football Union want to rewrite the laws dealing with the scrum, rucks and mauls with the result that second phase possession, an obsession of the modern British coach, will be virtually eliminated in its present form.

The moves are principally designed to make the game safer and more attractive by keeping players on their feet and avoiding the notorious pile-ups and collapsed scrums. They stem from the two-year labours of an injuries working party and will be put before the International Board, rugby's ruling body, at their meeting in Paris which begins on March 18. The working party itself is indirectly the brainchild of administrators or players but of parents who have been worried over the increase in injuries.

John Kendall-Carpenter, a member of the International Board, a former England international and headmaster of Wellington School, Somerset,

said: "Boxing has been banished from schools because it was considered too dangerous and we have to be careful that the same thing doesn't happen to rugby".

The recommendations will alter fundamentally laws 19(3) and 20, the former covering "lying with, on or near the ball" and the latter dealing with the scrum. A protracted maul or ruck, where a referee waits for the ball to emerge, would be abolished. Any player wilfully on the ground will be penalized and the idea is to keep both sets of forwards on their feet and the game alive.

As to the scrum, the shoulders of all players must not be lower than his hip, the object being to eliminate collapsed scrums which can be the source of neck and spinal injuries. The working party found that of 63 players admitted to Stoke Mandeville Hospital with broken necks between 1952 and 1982, 37 were forwards, 20 of them from front row forwards. Of the 63, 16 were schoolboys.

The rule changes have been from each team on their feet" (Law 21, rucks; Law 22, maul). Should the referee find a maul or ruck on the ground, the referee must immediately act to prevent a pile-up from developing.

Reason: Because of the unsatisfactory nature of the pile-ups which continue to take place in the game and for safety.

Law 20 Scrummage (1B 149) Reference point (5) delete and replace with:

"While a scrum is forming and is taking place:

(a) All players in each front row must adopt a normal stance. Both feet must be on the ground, must not be crossed and must be in a position for an effective forward shove.

(b) The shoulders of all players in the scrum must not be lower than his hip joint.

(c) The players of each front row shall stand firmly and continuously."

Reason: For Safety. This change has proved extremely successful over the last 12 months with the U-19 age group.

operated by England at under-19 level for the past two seasons, although not by the other home countries.

The schoolboy "guineapigs" have responded well. Kendall-Carpenter said, "One school reported a 50 per cent reduction in injuries and the pattern of play has improved."

Similar innovations have been employed by schools in Australia and New Zealand for the last six years and the RFU feel their potential revolution at club and international level is timely in the wake of the Australian party which has just left British rugby asking itself many questions.

"Second phase ball is killing our game," Kendall-Carpenter said, "which is why we are trying to kill it. There is no such thing as an Australian rugby and that explains why their game is so much cleaner, faster and entertaining. By heaving around in a heap we stop the game instead of starting it. Our appeal is diminishing, which is why we want literally to get our game back on its feet."

Kendall-Carpenter, who won 23 caps between 1949 and 1954, recalled a visit to the England dressing room after a match against Argentina in 1981. "Nobody could speak," he said. "Bill Beaumont had a bruise a foot square on his back and what they had been involved in was physical combat. We have got to get away from this."

The RFU, who have spent between £25,000 and £30,000 on their campaign, believe, with the support of the southern hemisphere, they will get their proposals passed by the IB.

Meanwhile they are establishing a national register of injuries, co-ordinated by computer, beginning with a pilot scheme involving 60 clubs and schools. With the help of the BBC, they will also video tapes of matches at Twickenham to monitor how injuries are caused.

Ian Beer, chairman of the working party, said: "There are half a million people playing rugby in England every weekend and we don't think it's too dangerous, but the approach to it has become more competitive and aggressive."

Rigton Beau ready for a repeat

By Mandarin

Twelve months ago visitors to Hereford watched Rigton Beau and Pucka Fella win the Coriander Handicap Hurdle and the Comfrey Handicap Chase, respectively. Today the same two will be back there attempting to give a repeat performance, and I think that both have a good chance of succeeding.

Rigton Beau, who won his race last year by 20 lengths, is



VOICE OF PROGRESS, who after three placed efforts against strong opposition this season, is set an easier task in today's Closes Chase at Hereford.

Three declare for King George

Boxing Day's King George VI Chase at Kempton Park has cut up to three declarations at the four-day stage, and with Combs Ditch a final hurdle, the stage looks set for a match between Burrough Hill and Wayward Lad. It will be the smallest King George field since Frenchman's Cove best Jay Trump in a match 20 years ago.

The current score in the battle of the "lads" is 2-0 in favour of Mrs Jenny Pittman's Gold Cup winner, Wayward Lad was pulled up behind Burrough Hill Lad at Cheltenham last March, while in a recent clash at Wetherby, Mrs Pittman's gelding came home 10 lengths to the good.

napped to triumph again even though he now has 4lb more to carry against arguably tougher opposition. Rigton Beau needed two races last season before he struck winning form and that looks like being the pattern again. In going nap on him in possibly the hardest race of the day I am greatly encouraged by the way that his trainer Gay Kinsley's horses have been running of late.

Spaced Out, who has such a good record at Hereford: Rebe, from Tim Forster's in-form stable, Miss Willie, a full sister to that Cheltenham specialist Willy Wumpkins, Rosemary Lady and Kevin Evans, who with there with a chance of winning at Leicester until he tripped up three hurdles out, are formidable opponents. But following that heartening run behind Pelion at Huntingdon last week Rigton Beau can prove equal to the task.

Anthony Webber, who rides my nap, also has a good chance of winning the Closes Chase on Ardent Spy, who won his first race of the season at Warwick so nicely. But here I just prefer Voice Of Progress, who has been running well in better company at Newbury, Cheltenham and Haydock.

The Comfrey Handicap Chase will be the third time that Pucka Fella and Baldydonagh have met this season. So far Pucka Fella has done the better each time, on the last occasion by as much as 10 lengths. Now, on only 3lb worse terms, I expect him to come out on top again.

At Carlisle, who will not need to be blessed with vivid imagination to picture Gordon Richards enjoying a field day. The successful Penrith trainer has a fancied runner in every race at his local track.

Having been beaten a neck by Strawhill at Hexham recently Preben Fur looks to have an excellent chance of getting his revenge on the 1983 Flat Pattern year with the formation of a new group two one-mile event, the Trusthouse Forte Mile, for four-year-olds and upwards, to be run at Sandown on April 26, while the Juddmonte Locking Stakes at Newbury on May 17, formerly group three, has been upgraded to group two status.

will not have to be anything out of the ordinary to win the second division of the Caldbeck Novices' Hurdle.

Pattern changes

The stewards of the Jockey Club announced yesterday that following the annual meeting of the European Pattern Committee, held in Rome last week, two major changes will be made to the 1985 Flat Pattern next year with the formation of a new group two one-mile event, the Trusthouse Forte Mile, for four-year-olds and upwards, to be run at Sandown on April 26, while the Juddmonte Locking Stakes at Newbury on May 17, formerly group three, has been upgraded to group two status.

Misfortune for Dever as Ben Lair survives

Peter Dever, who has been riding so well recently, had the sort of Christmas present at Worcester yesterday that National Hunt jockeys dread. He came for one ride, Murray's Gold, in the Novices' Chase, fell at the eighth and finished up with a broken left wrist which is likely to keep him out of action for a month.

The race went to Fulke Walwyn's 13.0 favourite Ben Lair, who gave weight off round and scraped home by half a length after an incident-packed last half mile. Ben Lair looked like turning it into a procession when he was bowling along with a clear lead for most of the way, but his favourite stumbled as he touched down over the fourth from home, losing most of his advantage. Artie Mariner was breaking down Ben Lair's neck when he almost went with a bad blunder at the next, then a loose horse nearly took Ben Lair out at the last, making the favourite lose all his momentum.

Avie, here suddenly looked set to catch the leader, only to take the last fence by the roots, 30 yards later, getting rid of both his horse and rider after Anthony Webber had made a valiant effort to stay on board.

Finally, Seven Acres stayed a late flourish that failed by only half a length. But Ben Lair, continuing unbeaten on the only two occasions he has completed the course and Fulke Walwyn said: "He jumped well in the conditions, which were really tough, and he pulled up a walk at the last. I think he is a horse with a good future."

The luck of Jimmy Duggan, another promising and stylish young rider, could not have been in greater evidence. Duggan, aged 21, came for two rides and won on both - Sailor's Dance and Hopeful Answer.

Last respects

The racing world yesterday paid its last respects to the Newmarket jockey Brian Taylor, who died in Hong Kong from head injuries suffered in a fall at Sha Tin racetrack on December 12. Stewards and officials of the Jockey Club, owners, trainers, jockeys, the racing press, and many of Taylor's friends were among the mourners at All Saints Church, Newmarket. Taylor, aged 39, won 1,254 winners, including the Derby on Snow Knight in 1974, leaves a son and two daughters.

Worcester results

1.0 (2m) 1. BEN LAIR (13.0) 1.30 (3m) 1. BEN LAIR (13.0) 2. SEVEN ACRES (13.0) 3. AVIE (13.0) 4. MURRAY'S GOLD (13.0) 5. ARTIE MARINER (13.0) 6. SAILOR'S DANCE (13.0) 7. HOPEFUL ANSWER (13.0) 8. BUCKLE UP (13.0) 9. BUCKLE UP (13.0) 10. BUCKLE UP (13.0) 11. BUCKLE UP (13.0) 12. BUCKLE UP (13.0) 13. BUCKLE UP (13.0) 14. BUCKLE UP (13.0) 15. BUCKLE UP (13.0) 16. BUCKLE UP (13.0) 17. BUCKLE UP (13.0) 18. BUCKLE UP (13.0) 19. BUCKLE UP (13.0) 20. BUCKLE UP (13.0) 21. BUCKLE UP (13.0) 22. BUCKLE UP (13.0) 23. BUCKLE UP (13.0) 24. BUCKLE UP (13.0) 25. BUCKLE UP (13.0) 26. BUCKLE UP (13.0) 27. BUCKLE UP (13.0) 28. BUCKLE UP (13.0) 29. BUCKLE UP (13.0) 30. BUCKLE UP (13.0) 31. BUCKLE UP (13.0) 32. BUCKLE UP (13.0) 33. BUCKLE UP (13.0) 34. BUCKLE UP (13.0) 35. BUCKLE UP (13.0) 36. BUCKLE UP (13.0) 37. BUCKLE UP (13.0) 38. BUCKLE UP (13.0) 39. BUCKLE UP (13.0) 40. BUCKLE UP (13.0) 41. BUCKLE UP (13.0) 42. BUCKLE UP (13.0) 43. BUCKLE UP (13.0) 44. BUCKLE UP (13.0) 45. BUCKLE UP (13.0) 46. 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HORIZONS

The Times guide to career development

Working at retirement

It is only 10.30 am when George has his first drink of the day. He has already been up four hours although the reason for the early rise no longer exists. He hasn't had breakfast, just tea and a piece of toast. He has been to get the paper and read it and now needs that drink.

George is not alcoholic as yet. The day is stretching before him like featureless landscape, nothing to aim at and nothing to look forward to. He will go to the pub or perhaps not as money is tight. A dose and tea are the highlights of the day. All that has happened to George is that he is no longer working - or, to be more precise no longer employed.

It is not as if George was unprepared for retirement. He volunteered to go early and had spent some time at work as a steward counselling others in similar circumstances. Despite this, the reality was far worse than he imagined. For many others it is worse still.

Life in industrialised countries is based upon employment. The education system trains rather than educates in both its subject matter and its disciplines, and this is as true at university as at primary school levels. The older notions of education have found no place in the late twentieth century. We ask young people what they want to be and expect an answer couched in job title terms. Employment and the job, its rewards, its status, its identity and its social importance pervade every day of life.

Unfortunately not all of us work, and those of us that do have periods when we are left to our own devices. For employees these periods can legitimately be termed leisure, because it is work which defines the existence of leisure.

There are disciplines at work. Time keeping can be ritualised, self-expression suppressed and tasks performed. For the majority of people employment is about doing things that other people have told them to do. The number of people lucky enough to have jobs which they design themselves and where the priorities are self-set is small indeed, although "luck" is a value judgment.

It follows that if the education system prepares people for work, rather than for life, then there may be

Barrie Sherman
on the problems of
not being employed

problems when work is no longer available. George, and there are thousands like him, demonstrates the problem in stark relief.

What work does is less romantic than giving us a sense of purpose, and what employment does is more mundane than inspiring a sense of identity. It structures our time. That is why when we lose employment either because of redundancy or retirement or the aftermath of the child bearing/raising period, we are at a loss.

George's drinking (it may as well have been taking tranquilizers) is only a solitary version of the young person binging around the street corner because school had prepared him or her for a job and precious little else. In passing, it is worth noting that the palliatives, the YTS and many other schemes, merely reinforce this status quo.

If work structures our time then it should prepare us for non-work. Activity in retirement is not unknown, although most of it is a continuation of working life hobbies, like gardening, bowls and painting. The lucky few get consultancies, but these are people who had knowledge-intensive jobs. Some unemployed people use their skills or expertise to start their own businesses, while others bring the disciplines to bear on their hobbies or interests and convert them into companies.

These people, however, are not the rule. More people feel lost when not at their place of employment than revel in their newly found freedoms. This can trail tragedy in its wake as the mortality figures among men and the attempted suicides among the unemployed show.

The structure of work quite simply does not prepare us for anything else. Our ability to take control over our own time, and over our lives, appears to be impaired by our experiences at work. We carry little away from work into our non-work lives. One explanation for this is that the structures are all already laid down, and that there is little encouragement

to think or to practise innovations on an individual basis. The time is provided by the individual but the circumstances of the job dictate how it is filled.

Work is like a pre-programmed word processor - we sit at it, press the appropriate buttons and the text prints out. Non-work is like sitting in front of an old-fashioned typewriter, no matter how much we push the button, and being left with a blank piece of paper.

Unemployment and retirement, and indeed long periods of leisure time, are for some people like writers block.

The way to solve George's problem is not at first sight as easy as it may appear to be. Pre-retirement counselling can help, as can a series of training schemes for the younger unemployed men and women. But these are at best second choices. Both are based on the assumption that working is better than not working, and that full time work is better than part-time. Neither gives the individual the self-confidence or the know-how to regain power over their own time.

The answers have to be seen in the longer term. Changes in the way that we educate people are long overdue, and the trend in the US to employ creative generalists rather than specialist technicians should be pointing in the right direction. More important is the change in how we work, and how we conduct ourselves at work. The new systems can be used to decentralise decision making, to enhance skills and to stimulate the art of taking responsibility. At present they are being used in precisely the opposite way.

In Europe flexi-time and flexi-years are becoming more usual and flexible patterns are emerging in the way operations are mounted. For the first time since the industrial revolution employees, managers and professionals pre-empt among themselves, have the opportunity to structure their own work and working environments.

If they can then this knowledge can be carried over into the non-work areas of life. If not the prognosis is for the first drink of the day at ten o'clock, if George can still afford it.

● Career Horizons will appear again on January 7.

General Appointments

World Famous Jewellers
VAN CLEEF AND ARPELS

Have a vacancy for a

SENIOR
SALES MANAGER

to handle sale of high-class jewellery to VIP clientele.

Only candidates who are experienced in the jewellery trade and of immaculate appearance, preferably bi-lingual (French) need to apply.

Salary and other benefits not less than £25,000 pa. Please apply with CV to:

153 NEW BOND STREET,
LONDON, W1

GENERAL SECRETARY

THE LABOUR PARTY

The National Executive Committee invites applications from Labour Party members for the post of General Secretary. Conditions of appointment and terms of application can be obtained from The Chairman, The Labour Party, 150 Walsworth Road, London, SE17 1JT, to whom completed application forms must be returned not later than first post on Friday, 18 January, 1985.

TECHNICAL P.R.
WRITER/EXEC

A fast growing Technical PR Consultancy based in the Reading area urgently needs another Writer/Exec. Essential qualifications are Graduate level education, preferably in a technical discipline, proven journalistic experience, a good news sense, commercial judgment and the ability to work under pressure. Preference will be given to applicants with experience in technical journalism or PR.

The successful applicant will work on varied marketing communications assignments for companies in electronics, computing, telecommunications and engineering.

It's a ground floor appointment in a consultancy that has doubled in size in the last 12 months.

Please write to:

The Managing Director
ROGER STATION ASSOCIATES LIMITED
35 Broad Street, Wokingham, Berkshire RG11 1AU

NABER FISHERY BOARD

Manager

required from September 1985 for River Naber in Sutherland. Management of 3 watchers operation of the sweep net & coastal patrols from Loch Erribol to Sandside on behalf of north coast sea fisheries. House, car & pension.

Apply in writing to:-

Sir Marcus Kinball,
Almaharra Lodge,
Laird, Sutherland

UNIVERSITY OF DUNDEE

DENTAL HEALTH SERVICES RESEARCH UNIT
Applications are invited from registered dentists for the post of

DIRECTOR

of the Dental Health Services Research Unit which will fall vacant on 1 August 1985. Established in 1979 the Unit is based in Dundee Dental School and is funded by the Scottish Home and Health Department to investigate the provision of NHS Dental Services. The Director will be responsible for running all aspects of the Unit including the development of the research programme. Applicants will be expected to have a relevant postgraduate qualification and the appointment will be made at a senior level suitable for the successful candidate. Applications (6 copies) giving full details of qualifications and previous experience, together with the names of three referees, should be lodged by 31 January 1985 with the Secretary, The University, Dundee, DD1 4HN, from whom further particulars of the appointment may be obtained. Please quote reference E51740/84(C).

Golden Opportunity

In 3 years C/S UK have quadrupled their turnover based on a single product of American origin. The time has come to establish new lines to maintain this progressive trend. An opportunity exists for an ambitious young person to spearhead the marketing of these products within the UK. Products of unashamed quality deserve the best attention and applicants must have a thorough knowledge of the construction industry, gained preferably from an architectural background. Aged around 30 the successful applicant must demonstrate an enthusiastic approach toward personal achievement and the ability to get the best from others. Exceptional career potential is the reward for success.

Please send full CV to

The Managing Director
CONSTRUCTION SPECIALITIES UK LTD
Consep House, Springfield Road, Chesham, Bucks
HP5 1PW

LONDON COLLEGE OF MUSIC

Applications are invited for the post of

PRIVATE
SECRETARY

Application forms - with job description - available from The Registrar, London College of Music, 47 Gt. Marlborough St., London W1V 2AS
Closing date for applications is February 28th 1985.

Director
of
Social Services

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

To succeed Mr Nicolas Stacey, who is to become Chief Executive of the London Docklands Arena Trust. The Social Services Department has a reputation for innovation in one of the largest County authorities, serving a population of 1.5 million.

• RESPONSIBILITY is for the management of resources embracing a budget of over £60m, 110 establishments, and about 6,500 employees.

• THE REQUIREMENT is for relevant senior management experience, and the ability to deliver imaginative service and maximum value for money.

• PREFERRED AGE 40s. Salary range at present up to £34,563.

Write in complete confidence

to A. Longland as adviser to the Authority.

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SEARCH & SELECTION

10 HALLAM STREET LONDON W1N 6DJ

International Flue-Cured Tobacco
Growers' Association (IFTGA)

The purpose of this Association is to promote and develop common interests of member flue-cured tobacco producers throughout the world, whilst recognising the competitiveness between such producers.

SECRETARY

Applications are invited from suitable, experienced and qualified persons for the position of Secretary of the IFTGA whose offices are to be established in England, Western Europe or USA.

The successful applicant will be responsible to the Chairman of the IFTGA for the overall function of the Association. The position, in particular, will entail the following:-

- + The establishment of the office and the secretariat.
- + The establishment of, and the maintenance of, close liaison with international manufacturers.
- + The establishment of an information service to serve all of its members.
- + Liaison and advice to all members.

Prospective applicants should therefore:-

- Hold a CIS or similar recognised professional qualification or practical experience.
- Be a mature and responsible person with at least 10 years managerial experience.
- Have the ability to communicate with all categories of personnel at an international level.

The Association offers:-

- A competitive salary and gratuity.
- Contributory pension fund and life assurance
- Medical and dental aid.
- Generous leave conditions.
- Normal fringe benefits.

Applications will be treated in the strictest confidence and should be addressed to:

THE CHAIRMAN, IFTGA,
P.O. BOX 1781,
HARARE, ZIMBABWE

To arrive not later than 20th January 1985.

BOC Cryoplants

SENIOR INSTRUMENT ENGINEER

BOC Cryoplants Limited require a Senior Instrument Engineer at their North London site. The successful candidate will be required to specify equipment and control systems, to assist in the selection of suppliers, to inspect certain equipment at the supplier, and, in certain circumstances, to commission equipment and control systems on site. Experience in computer controlled process plant is essential. A chartered Engineer would be preferred.

Benefits as befits a large company, including 25 days holiday per full year, plus 8 days statutory Bank Holiday, and a contributory pension fund. A generous relocation package can also be offered.

Application, including a full C.V. should be sent to:

J. V. Langrell,
Personnel Services Officer,
B O C Cryoplants Ltd.,
Angel Road,
Edmonton, London N15 3BW.

INTERNATIONAL
APPOINTMENTS

Tour Escorts

A de luxe American travel company requires:

- (1) Bilingual Escorts with world-wide experience and permanent employment.
- (2) University graduates in the following areas: France, East Germany and Russia for summer 1985.
- (3) Own photographs to be taken "in situ".
- (4) International, air & railway travel, New York, Moscow, Warsaw.

COMPUTER PERSON

We are looking for a personable, efficient, co-operative, efficient person to join a small, growing company based in Kent. The person must be experienced in the basic principles of a computer system and be able to install and maintain information and control systems. The person must also be able to assist the management and carry out research. Salary and benefits will be an added advantage. Salary by negotiation. Apply by telephone to the person in charge of the company.

01 225 0233

REVERSE STUDIOS

FINANCIAL CONTROLLER

Salary £12,000
Must be able to draft accounts for presentation to auditors and have some previous financial experience.
Applications in strict confidence to: CHIEF EXECUTIVE, REVERSE STUDIOS, CHESHAM, HAMPSHIRE LONDON W6 8AT.
Reverse Studios is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

LAND AND MARINE
ENGINEERING LIMITED

Is an International Maritime Civil Engineering Company involved in the construction and development of submarine pipelines, particularly related to the offshore Oil and Gas Industry.

The Company invite applications for the position of

SECRETARY/PERSONAL
ASSISTANT

to provide the full range of secretarial duties which initially will include assisting in the opening of the new London office and the setting up of new working and administrative procedures to promote the Company, and its marketing policies.

Applicants aged over 25 should be self-motivated and be able to work without supervision and have had some experience working as a secretary or Personal Assistant with an International Company preferably in offshore oil and gas.

To apply, write giving brief details of Career to date to:-

THE PERSONNEL MANAGER
LAND AND MARINE ENGINEERING LTD
PORT CAUSEWAY
BROMBOROUGH, WIRRAL
MERSEYSIDE L62 4TG

WYSE

UK SALES EXECUTIVE

LONDON BASED C.£30,000 OTE + CAR

The Client - Wyse Technology is a substantial public company enjoying remarkable growth through sales of an advanced range of Visual Display Units and Microcomputers.

The Job - Liaison between our clients UK distributors and their offices in the USA and Taiwan, negotiation with major customers and advising on technical matters. Co-ordination and maintenance of the UK sales and marketing effort.

The Person - Well qualified in electronics the successful candidate will have a proven track record in sales and marketing of appropriate computer equipment.

Interviews will be held on Sunday 13th and Monday 14th January 1985. If you wish to be considered please write (in confidence) with C.V. to Ref WY 46.

RIS

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Today's television and radio programmes

Summaries by Peter Dear and Peter Davalle

BBC1

- 00 Ceefax AIL.
- 05 Breakfast Time with Frank Bough and Selma Scott. News from Fern Britton at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30 with headlines on the quarter hours and at 8.59. Sport at 6.40 and 7.40; regional news, weather and traffic at 6.45, 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15; programme choice at 8.55; a review of the morning newspapers at 7.18 and 8.18. Plus the Breakfast Time Doctor and Glynis Christian's festive fare between 8.30 and 9.00. The guest is Rod Hull with Emu. Talk-life. The final programme in the radiovision series, broadcast simultaneously with Radio 4 deals with Morality. Among those taking part are Richard Tipler, a former policeman turned sex-shop owner who has now embraced Christianity, philosopher Alan Ryan, the Bishop of Stepney, Jim Thompson, and Sir Mervyn Dymally. 10.00 Play School (1). 10.50 Ceefax.
- 30 News After Noon with Richard Whitmore and Mervyn Stuart. The weather details come from Michael Fish 12.57. Regional news, 10.00. Ceefax. 10.50 Play School (1). 10.50 Ceefax.
- 00 Pebble Mill at One includes the final of the Youth in Business Award and music from Shalaka 1.45. 1.50 The Afternoon Show presented by Barbara Dickson and Panny Jony. Among the topics touched on today are retirement and social drinking. There is also an interview with Chris Sear, 2.40. Beauty in the Eye. The last of four films focuses on the beauties of Polynesia (1).
- 250 War at Sea. Ludovic Kennedy traces the history of the four-year war between the German and British navies. 3.00 Ceefax.
- 1.40 Cartoon. Tom and Jerry in A-Tonement Snowman 3.48. Regional news (not London). 3.50 Play School, presented by Ben Thomas. 4.10 SuperTed.
- 1.15 Jackanory. Michael Barrymore reads part four of The Land of Green Ginger. 4.30 News Test. Christmas Special. The champions meet a guest team representing Grange Hill. 4.50 John Craven's Newsround.
- 5.00 Blue Peter. Simon Groom switches on the Christmas illuminations in Mousehole, Cornwall (Ceefax 5.58). Henry's Cat 5.25. Grange Hill. Episode 16 (1). (Ceefax) 5.58. Weather.
- 3.00 News with Sue Lawton and Nicholas Witchell.
- 3.30 London Plus.
- 3.55 The District Nurse. The final episode of the series and Megan faces a dilemma. Should she stay in Penzance or should she leave and find happiness elsewhere? (Ceefax).
- 7.25 Top of the Pops presented by Simon Bates and Janice Long.
- 3.00 The Front Line. Sheldon is upset when his half-brother, Malcolm, now a policeman, arrests one of his heroes, Bill Martins, a small-time crook.
- 8.30 Zoo 2000. Jeremy Charles visits zoos that specialise in close contact with uncaged animals (Ceefax).
- 9.00 News with Julia Somerville.
- 9.25 Crimewatch UK. Nick Ross and Sue Cook present a series of reconstructed unsolved crimes in an effort to jog viewers' memories.
- 1.05 Crimewatch Update.
- 1.15 Macmillan at War. Lord Macmillan recalls the negotiations which led to the Italian armistice.
- 1.50 Weather.

TV-am

- 6.25 Good Morning Britain. Presented by Anne Diamond and Nick Owen. News with Jayne Irving at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30; sport at 6.30 and 7.30; a review of the morning newspapers at 7.18 and 8.18. Plus the Breakfast Time Doctor and Glynis Christian's festive fare between 8.30 and 9.00. The guest is Rod Hull with Emu. Talk-life. The final programme in the radiovision series, broadcast simultaneously with Radio 4 deals with Morality. Among those taking part are Richard Tipler, a former policeman turned sex-shop owner who has now embraced Christianity, philosopher Alan Ryan, the Bishop of Stepney, Jim Thompson, and Sir Mervyn Dymally. 10.00 Play School (1). 10.50 Ceefax.

ITV/LONDON

- 9.25 Thames news headlines followed by Sesame Street. 10.35 The Moomins (1).
- 10.30 Under the Same Sky. Tom Baker with a story from Germany. Silas, about the horrors of having a car accident abroad.
- 10.50 About Britain. Vic of the Scillies is a portrait of Vic Twiss, a bus driver and test operator who has been entertaining islanders and visitors with humour and song for nearly 60 years.
- 11.15 Video and chips. Computer knowledge for the young 11.35 Razzamazzam. Pop music.
- 12.00 Flicks. Cartoon films of children's books, presented by Christopher Lillicrap (1) 12.10 Moomins and Co and guest Patsy Rowlands 12.30 The Sullivan.
- 1.00 News at One 1.20 Thames news with Robin Houston 1.30 Falcon Crest. Drama series about the battle for control of a California wine business. Starring James Frawley. 2.30 Daytime. Sarah Kennedy chairs a studio discussion on a matter of topical importance 3.00 University Challenge. The second leg of the final between the Open University and the University of St Andrews. The questionmaster is Bamber Gascoigne.
- 3.25 Thames news headlines 3.30 Film: Scott's Honor (1980). A made-for-television movie, starring Katherine Helmond and William B. Davis, about a middle-aged woman who dislikes children who is reluctantly persuaded to organise a cub scout group. Directed by Henry Levin.
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Stanley Holloway: Champagne Charlie (Channel 4, 5.00 pm)

BBC2

- 9.00 Ceefax.
- 9.55 Backstairs at the White House. The last episode of the series on the lives of Presidents of the United States as seen through the eyes of a mother and daughter who, between them, worked in the White House for more than half a century. In this afternoon's episode Harry Truman is played by Harry Morgan; Andrew Duggan is Dwight D. Eisenhower and John Anderson plays Franklin D. Roosevelt (1).
- 5.30 News summary with subtitles.
- 5.35 Film: The War Wages (1967) starring John Wayne, Kirk Douglas and Howard Keel. Wayne plays a parolee prisoner bent on taking revenge on the man who put him in prison and also took his farm. The ex-prisoner, Taw Jackson, recruits a gang to steal a gold shipment that is guarded by an almost impenetrable force. With Keenan Wynn and Bruce Cabot. Directed by Burt Kennedy.
- 7.10 The First Noel. Part four of the series tracing the history of carols concentrates on those written when the monarchy was restored to the throne, following the Puritan period. Presented by St Geraint Evans and featuring the William Byrd Choir and the Choir of All Saints Church, London.
- 7.25 Open Space. Blues and celebrating black music. From London's Moonshine Arts Centre, Chicago's Jullio Finn, with performers from Africa, America and the Caribbean, play blues, reggae and griot music from West Africa.
- 8.00 Commercial Breaks. The final programme of the series follows the fortunes of a small holiday company who have taken the decision to expand into the competitive exotic holiday market. A new chief executive, Graham Phillips, scours the world for out-of-the-way places and by October the new brochure is out. Will it attract any potential holidaymakers? (See Choice).
- 8.30 Food and Drink Christmas Special, presented by Chris Ridd. The best buys in Christmas puddings and suggestions for disposal of turkey leftovers.
- 9.00 Entertainment USA. Jonathan King is in Seattle where he discovers why the Washington city has become the testing ground for avant garde plays and films.
- 9.30 Fifty Minutes: The Loved Ones. A documentary about the ever-open Animal Medical Center, New York (See Choice).
- 10.10 The Travel Show presented by Paul Helyer includes reports on winter time in Tenerife, on what you get for your money at Mayrhofen in the Austrian Alps and on a British Rail mystery tour.
- 10.45 Newsnight.
- 11.30 Buongiorno Italia! (1). Ends at 12.00.

Although OFF THE BEATEN TRACK (BBC2, 8.00pm) shelters under the umbrella of Commercial Breaks, the series that gives big business a human face (more often than not, bearing a front of perplexity, which I suppose makes it even more human), I see it more as an addendum to the recent *In at the Deep* End films because, like them, it is about a chirpy David taking on a scowling Goliath. It seems that the long-haul package holiday trade, which scans horizons far more distant than Benidorm or Corfu, is dominated by half-dozen top names, and has been for years. Imagine, then, the cool courage that was required of Meon Travel, a company which, when it threw its hat into the ring with the intention of shooting sophisticated travellers into thinking that they were being

offered something different. You might think it odd that one of the "something different" attractions for sophisticated, dwell on at some length in tonight's film, is a trip deep into the jungles of Borneo to dwell among head-hunters, (admittedly reformed) sharing mixed accommodation in long dormitories with bamboo-slat walls, and with a cluster of shrunken human heads standing in for the formal baskets considered de rigueur in Benidorm and Corfu.

● You could easily begin to lose patience with THE LOVED ONES (BBC2, 9.30) a fairly straightforward documentary about a medical centre for animals in New York, if you allowed mental pictures of the

Ethiopian famine tragedy or the Bhopal gas disaster to get in the way. This expensive haven for distraught pet-lovers, privately run and spectacularly equipped, numbers among its patients a dog who, every 10 days and for the past five years, has had to be given insulin injections. There is a consultant animal behaviourist to enlighten dog-lovers about the mysteries of their pets' preference for surfaces on which to urinate. And there is a pet bereavement group where heartbreak is pooled so intensely that, if you happen to switch on your television set at this point in Ted Clesby's film, you will think we have suddenly come to a post-funeral family gathering, in deepest mourning for a departed relative.

Peter Davalle

CHANNEL 4

- 2.30 The British at War. The series of British wartime documentaries and propaganda films, introduced by Leslie Halliwell, continues with *Flies Were Started* - a film made by Humphry Jennings in 1943 that tells the story of a day in the life of members of a London Auxiliary Section. Substitution during the blitzes of 1940-41. Then: *The True Story of Lili Marlene* "which depicts the story of the German song adopted by the British Army as a marching song and a morale booster." 5.30 News summary with subtitles.
- 5.35 Film: The War Wages (1967) starring John Wayne, Kirk Douglas and Howard Keel. Wayne plays a parolee prisoner bent on taking revenge on the man who put him in prison and also took his farm. The ex-prisoner, Taw Jackson, recruits a gang to steal a gold shipment that is guarded by an almost impenetrable force. With Keenan Wynn and Bruce Cabot. Directed by Burt Kennedy.
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- 10.45 Newsnight.
- 11.30 Buongiorno Italia! (1). Ends at 12.00.

Radio 4

- On long wave, 1 share on VHF.
- 5.55 Shipping.
- 6.00 News briefing: Weather, 6.10. Farming Today, 6.25. 6.30 Today, including 6.30, 7.30, 8.30. 6.55, 7.55. 8.25 Sport. 7.45. 8.00 News. 8.25. 8.57 Weather. 8.57. 9.00 News. 9.15. 9.25. 9.30. 9.45. 9.55. 10.00. 10.15. 10.25. 10.35. 10.45. 10.55. 11.05. 11.15. 11.25. 11.35. 11.45. 11.55. 12.05. 12.15. 12.25. 12.35. 12.45. 12.55. 1.05. 1.15. 1.25. 1.35. 1.45. 1.55. 2.05. 2.15. 2.25. 2.35. 2.45. 2.55. 3.05. 3.15. 3.25. 3.35. 3.45. 3.55. 4.05. 4.15. 4.25. 4.35. 4.45. 4.55. 5.05. 5.15. 5.25. 5.35. 5.45. 5.55. 6.05. 6.15. 6.25. 6.35. 6.45. 6.55. 7.05. 7.15. 7.25. 7.35. 7.45. 7.55. 8.05. 8.15. 8.25. 8.35. 8.45. 8.55. 9.05. 9.15. 9.25. 9.35. 9.45. 9.55. 10.05. 10.15. 10.25. 10.35. 10.45. 10.55. 11.05. 11.15. 11.25. 11.35. 11.45. 11.55. 12.05. 12.15. 12.25. 12.35. 12.45. 12.55. 1.05. 1.15. 1.25. 1.35. 1.45. 1.55. 2.05. 2.15. 2.25. 2.35. 2.45. 2.55. 3.05. 3.15. 3.25. 3.35. 3.45. 3.55. 4.05. 4.15. 4.25. 4.35. 4.45. 4.55. 5.05. 5.15. 5.25. 5.35. 5.45. 5.55. 6.05. 6.15. 6.25. 6.35. 6.45. 6.55. 7.05. 7.15. 7.25. 7.35. 7.45. 7.55. 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